The American Home

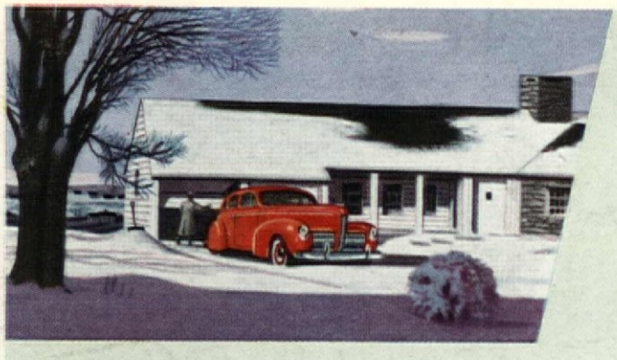
10¢



It's a full house AND an ace in the hole!



March 1940



INSTANT STARTING in any weather, with the exclusive Nash Manifold-Sealed engine. Pick-up of 15 to 50 MPH in 12.9 seconds in high gear. New Fourth Speed Forward has Automatic Overtake for safe passing, fast hill climbing. Has Sealed Beam lights for night driving.



RESTFUL TRAVEL. Smooth, silent Arrow-Flight springing, Foam Sponge seats, Fabreeka body mountings keep you rested 'til you turn into your Nash bed. 1800 Nash dealers offer nation-wide service.

YOU'LL FIND *a Road of Mystery*

SOMEDAY THIS WEEK you're going to rub your eyes and wonder where you are.

You'll find yourself on a road of mystery. The scene is hauntingly familiar — but, what's happened?

The day is clearer . . . the sky is brighter . . . You can almost count the shingles on the houses flashing by.

Suddenly, you realize why. You're in a Nash—and for the first time, there's no blur or jiggle between you and the landscape . . . thanks to a new ride called Arrow-Flight!

Where's that hill you used to crawl up in second . . . those ruts that yesterday jarred you to the teeth?

Look! You're flashing over them now at forty—in a new kind of Fourth Speed Forward!

Where's the engine roar . . . the banging springs . . . the howling wind?

Listen! Even at the speed you're going, you can hear a whisper from the back seat. (It's something new in car silencing that Nash's own soundproofing methods achieve!)

And that blizzard blowing up outside? It must be a mirage—for you're breathing air as fresh and warm and friendly as a May morning.

Perhaps it's this Weather Eye magic that produces perpetual spring . . . or the absolute ease of Arrow-Straight steering—but something leads you on. . .

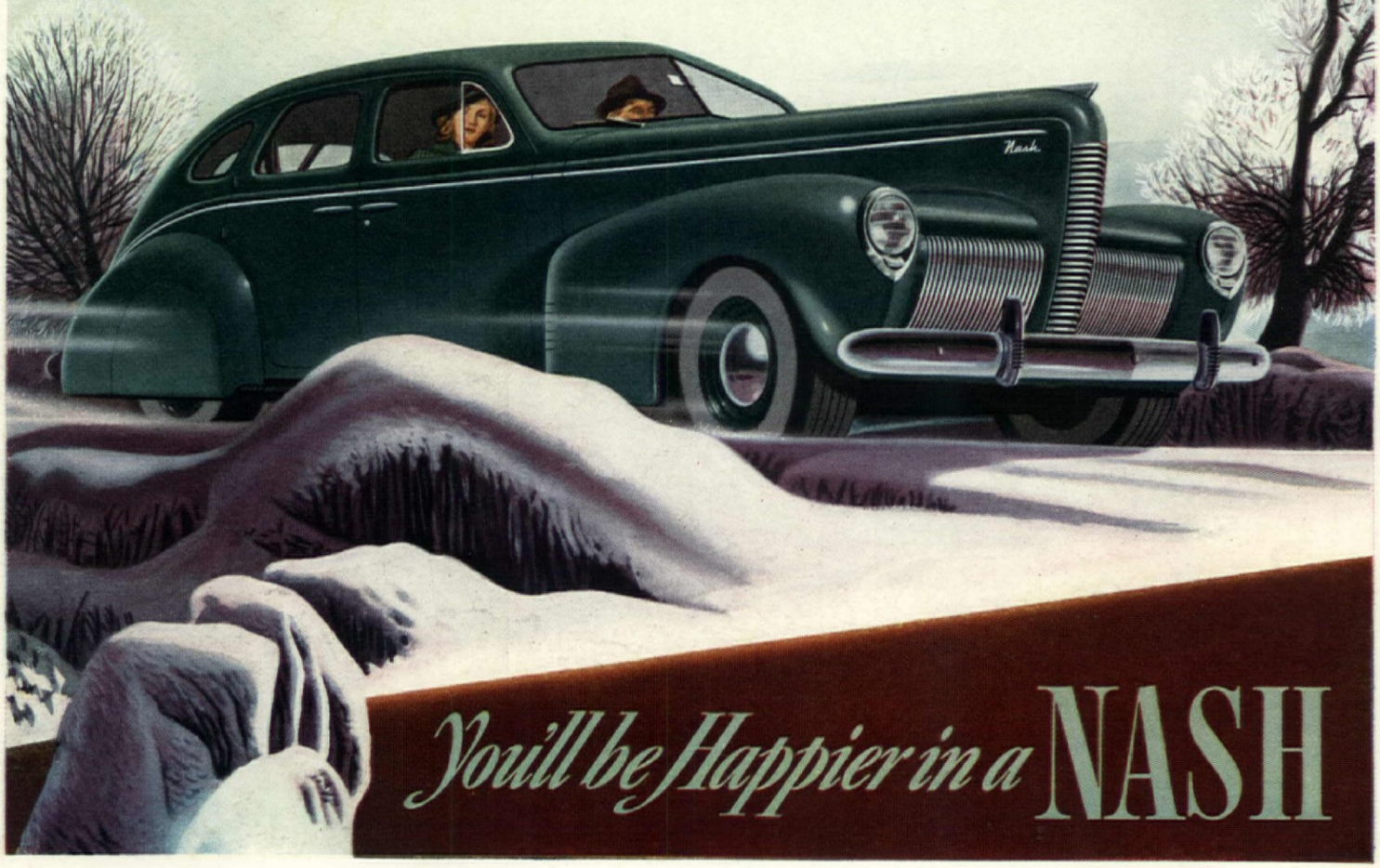
Yes—you'll follow this strange, uncanny road—free from cold and dust . . . without ruts or bumps or menacing hill . . . for at least a hundred thousand miles.

• • •

What a pity you haven't yet driven a Nash.

If it's price that's holding you back—forget it! Nash prices begin next to the lowest-priced cars . . . and when you weigh in Nash economy and high resale value, you can't spend much less for *any kind* of an automobile!

That road is waiting . . . get on it *now!*

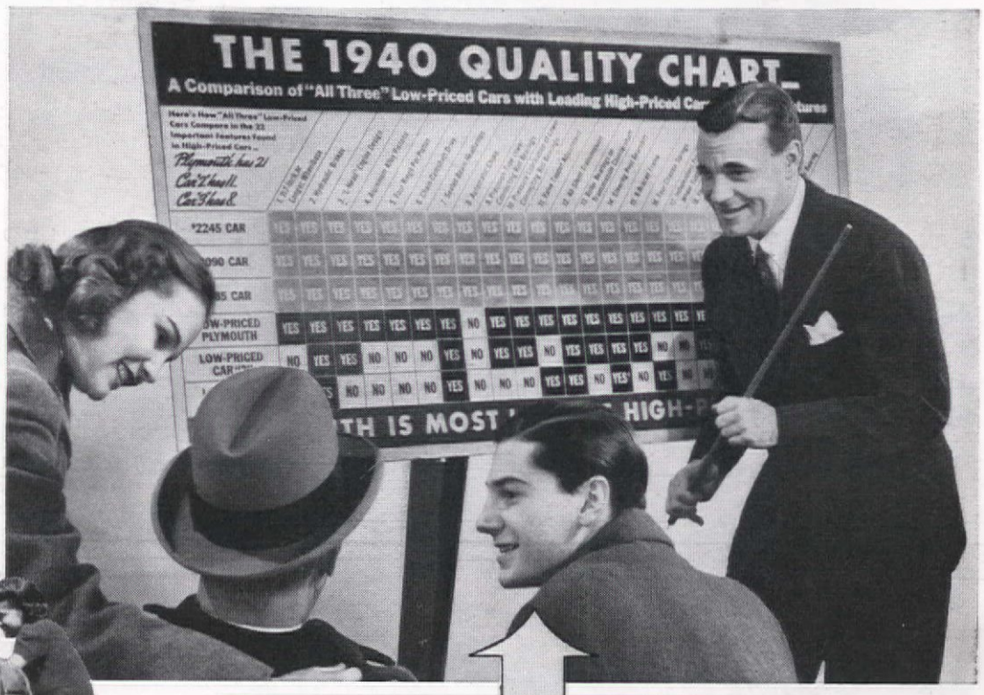


You'll be Happier in a NASH

Two Easy Steps Show You the Biggest Value!

FIRST: See the 1940 Quality Chart to discover how "All Three" low-priced cars compare in size, safety, comfort, long life.

SECOND: To find out what these facts mean to your enjoyment—take Plymouth's thrilling Luxury Ride!





NEW "ONE-TWO" WAY TO PICK YOUR BEST BUY...

1. SEE THE QUALITY CHART...

2. TAKE THE LUXURY RIDE

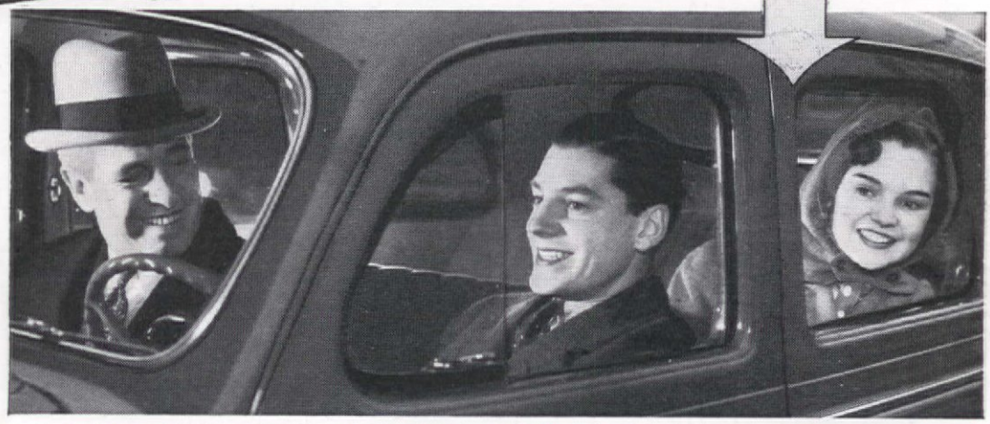
How "All 3" low-priced cars stack up on 22 features found in high-priced cars:
PLYMOUTH has 21...CAR "2" has 11...CAR "3" has 8

THE SWEEPING popularity of the 1940 Plymouth is a direct testimonial to its superior beauty, size, comfort, quality.

This year, *Plymouth* gives you 21 of the 22 important quality features found in high-priced cars!

See the Quality Chart at your nearby Plymouth dealer's... and to find out the greater enjoyment low price can buy, take Plymouth's thrilling Luxury Ride.

MAJOR BOWES, C. B. S., THURSDAYS, 9-10 P. M., E. S. T.

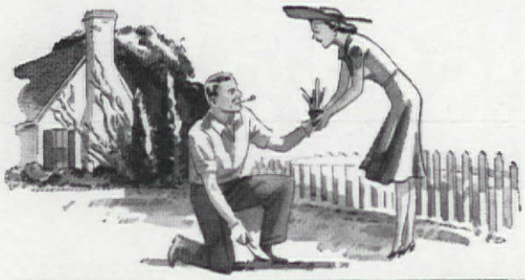


SEE THE NEW LOW-PRICED PLYMOUTH COMMERCIAL PICK-UP AND PANEL DELIVERY!

PLYMOUTH BUILDS GREAT CARS

The Browns have a Modest Home

BUT STILL THEY CAN AFFORD A CRANE KITCHEN





THE Browns have a modest home—it's small and compact—just suited to their needs . . . yet this home has the finest kitchen that one could put into any house, anywhere! It's a Crane Kitchen—designed for the utmost efficiency . . . planned to combine the last word in step-saving efficiency with arrangement and features that make life more enjoyable.

Frankly, the Browns hesitated before deciding on a Crane Kitchen. They thought, as many do, that Crane Equipment, because of its higher quality, must necessarily be high in price. Then they checked with their plumbing contractor and found that a Crane Kitchen, complete to the last detail, cost far less than they expected . . . and what's more, it was easy to buy on a convenient monthly budget plan.

No matter how modest your home . . . no matter how slender your budget . . . there's a Crane Kitchen designed for *you* . . . a Crane Kitchen containing a sink that's a joy to use . . . sturdy cabinets that offer plenty of storage space . . . all arranged to fit your needs and desires.

Visit your plumbing contractor—let him show you what Crane has to offer you in kitchen equipment. Then ask him about the convenient Crane F.H.A. plan that makes it so easy for you to have a Crane Kitchen.

1940 OUR 85th YEAR

CRANE

CRANE CO., GENERAL OFFICES: 836 S. MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO

VALVES • FITTINGS • PIPE • PLUMBING • HEATING • PUMPS

If you are interested in planning a new kitchen or remodeling an old one, write Crane Co., 836 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill., for a copy of "Family Planned Kitchens," a book that will help you with kitchen planning.

Name.....

Address.....

Town.....*State*.....

AH-3-40



Interior of "Tebosa," mountain lodge of Mrs. A. J. Provost, Boulder, Colorado

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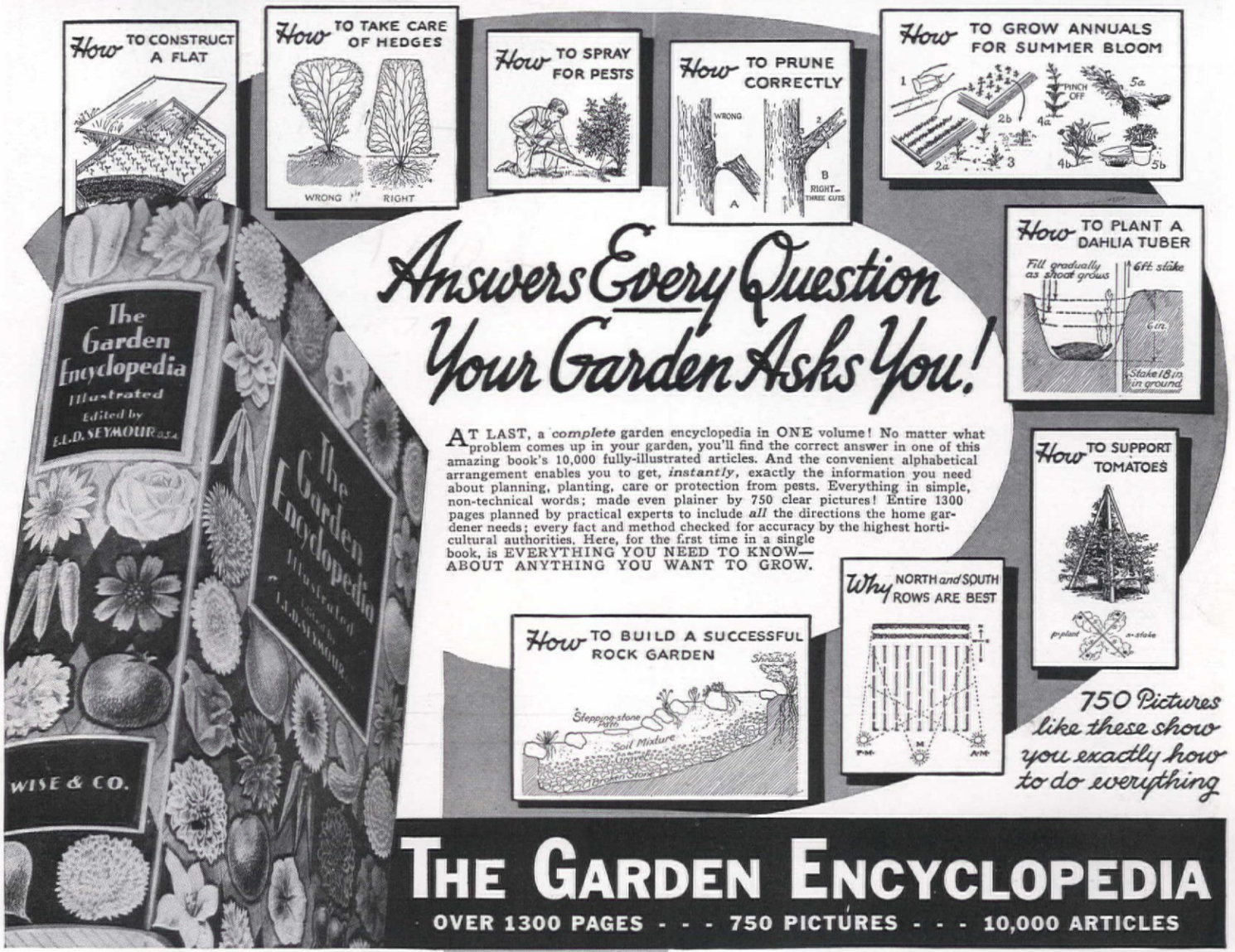
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I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow them all out!

That's the girl! Happy birthday, Ginnie.

Thank you—and have you seen all my presents?

Indeed I have. And what's more, right after supper I'm going to bring you the most exciting present of all . . . I'm going to bring *your Daddy's voice,* all the way from that city miles away where he had to go on business.

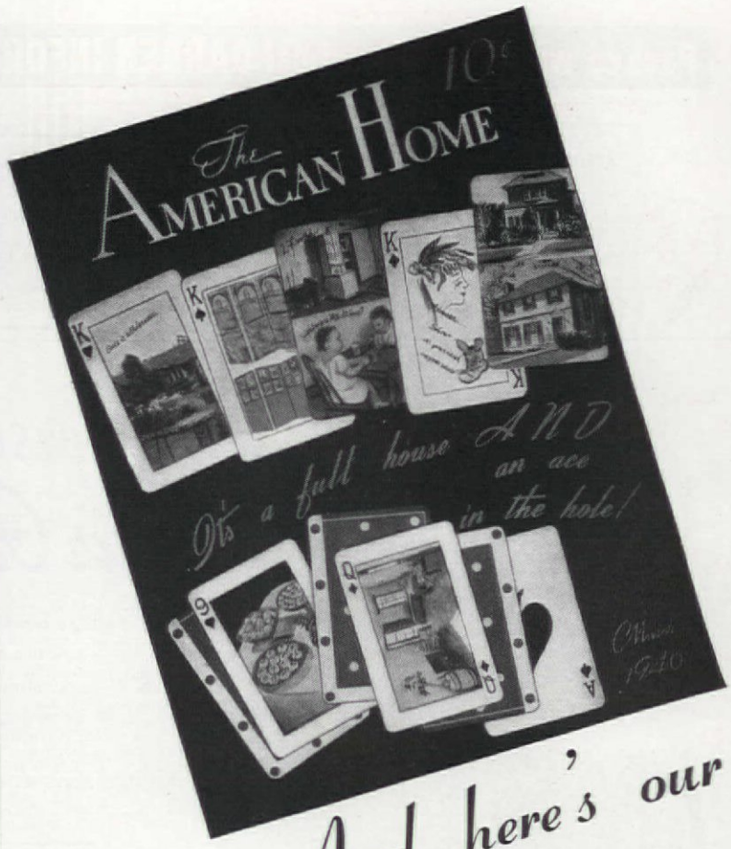
Are you truly? Oh, that will be lovely!

And even that isn't all, Ginnie. Ever since you were born, I've been busy for you. I've brought you vegetables from the grocer, dresses that Mummie saw advertised in the paper, and Dr. Wheeler who made you well. . . .

Why, you must be my fairy godmother!

I am, almost! And your Mother says it really *is* magic, the way I get things done for her. And cheaply, too. In fact, instead of counting me as an expense, she says I *save* her money!

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM



And here's our

ACE in the HOLE!

If you look at the cover of this issue carefully you'll see in the lower right-hand corner that we dealt you an ace in the hole in addition to the Kings, Queen, and nine. You'll find the rest of the deck fully disclosed in this issue but the ace is something we're keeping in reserve. We're not holding out on you—far from it—because the April issue of The American Home is the BIG ace in the hole we've been saving. We think it's going to be worth waiting for, and we hope you will agree with us. You see, in the April issue we're going to toss our editorial hats over the windmill, we're "going to town" on two urgent subjects. One is the low cost house, and by low we mean way down here—$1,500, $2,500, $4,000. The other subject is color and by color we don't mean ivory, cream, or ecru. We mean the kind of sparkling, undiluted COLOR that counts, the kind that sings and brings new life to whatever it touches. You'll see it applied to houses, gardens, and interiors. We're going to show you about fourteen really swell little houses as evidence of what builders, architects, and home owners have been up to all over the nation in meeting the one big building job today, the problem of the small, inexpensive house. So when the April issue comes out about the middle of March it should help to alleviate the gloom cast by the income tax collector and those early April rains.

Just about a year ago statistical figures were released proving that an enormous market (some twelve million customers) awaited the building industry if it could produce well-designed, well-planned, small houses under $4,000 or $5,000 in cost. 70% of the people were shown to be earning less than $2,000 a year and it was demonstrated that a great percentage were vitally interested in new up-to-date small homes. But they could obtain them only if they could get them by means of a modest down payment and small monthly payments. The change in the Federal Housing Act, in February, 1938, lowering the down payment on a low cost house from 20% to 10%, had helped to prove this fact, for the construction of new houses reached a total of 245,000 houses in 1938, a new high since the Depression years. (Only 40,000 dwelling units were built in 1933.) So builders and architects have finally realized in the past year that today's big field for home building is in houses costing under $5,000. They have looked the problem squarely in the face and met it with remarkable success. HOW it is being done is our ace in the hole, coming to you in our next issue.

Gay New Orleans votes

Swift's Premium "the best"



More women voted for Swift's Premium than for the next two brands combined!

FOR EASTER enjoy this ham that wins in poll after poll!



Romantic old New Orleans, whose Mardi Gras attracts thousands of visitors, is also celebrated for its delicious food. In this city of gourmets, one particular brand of ham is the favorite. Swift's Premium!

"What's the best ham?" In Washington, D. C., in glamorous Hollywood, hundreds of women had already cast their votes. Retail meat dealers' wives, too, had been polled throughout the nation.

In *all three* polls, *Swift's Premium* scored a smashing victory!

But how about the South . . . what do the women of New Orleans think? An independent research agency set to work to get their vote. The poll, made by interviews over the phone, showed still another triumph for famous Swift's Premium Ham! Swift's Premium actually got more votes than the next two brands *combined*.

For Easter, why not serve the ham whose flavor has won it so many victories? No other brand can give you the special, mild richness that comes from Swift's secret Brown Sugar Cure, or the mellow tang from Swift's way of Smoking in Ovens. And this ham of marvelous flavor is spring-chicken tender, too!

Place your Easter order early . . . enjoy *Swift's Premium* Ham.

Copr. 1940 by Swift & Company

Glorified for Easter! (*Recipe by Martha Logan.*) Wrap your Swift's Premium Ham loosely in the inner wrapper or in clean wrapping paper. Bake fat side up, on rack in open pan, in a slow oven (325° F.) without water. For cooking time schedules, read tag attached to each ham. Remove paper and skin; score; glaze with a syrup of 1 cup brown sugar, ½ cup honey, ½ cup orange juice. (Honey may be omitted.) Brown in hot oven (400° F.). The stunning, flower decorations are easy to make. *Ask your meat dealer for free, printed instructions.* Surround ham with nests of buttered noodles filled with buttered Brussels sprouts and carrot balls.



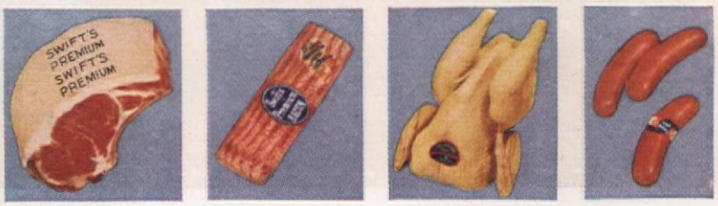


Ready to eat
(*Red label*)

For easy cooking
(*Blue label*)

Say Swift's Premium for the finest meats:

BEEF • HAM • BACON • POULTRY
VEAL • LAMB • FRANKFURTS
TABLE-READY MEATS



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"WHAT! AN ALL-ALUMINUM UNBREAKABLE VACUUM COFFEE MAKER!"

"YES! AND IT'S MIRRO THE FINEST ALUMINUM MY CHOICE FROM EXPERIENCE!"



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The most practical, convenient, durable Vacuum Coffee Maker you have ever seen! It gives you clear, fragrant, *filtered* coffee—and does it quickly! And here's another feature you'll like. You can put your hand and a wash cloth through the neck of the lower bowl and make sure it's clean and fresh always. That's one of the secrets of good coffee! See the new unbreakable MIRRO Vacuum Coffee Maker today—and you'll be using one tomorrow morning!

Makes Eight 5½-oz. Cups of Clear, Delicious Coffee



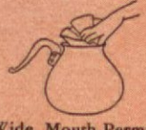
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While every precaution is taken to insure accuracy, we cannot guarantee against the possibility of an occasional change or omission in the preparation of this index.

HOW I RETIRED ON A LIFE INCOME OF $150 A MONTH



To men of 40 who want to retire in 15 years

"FIFTEEN years ago I made a discovery that changed my life. I believe it will interest you.

"When I was 40, I was worried about my future. I wasn't getting ahead. I seemed to be living in a circle, and I was dissatisfied. I used to dream of being able to relax, forget money worries and enjoy life. I longed for security.

"But it seemed hopeless. I wasn't rich. I probably never would be. Like millions of others, I would simply live and work and die—spend a lifetime trying to make both ends meet.

You don't have to be rich

"But that was 15 years ago. Now I have retired on a life income. I have no business worries—my security is guaranteed. I can work or play, as I like. Each month the postman hands me a check for $150 and I know that I will receive another $150 every month as long as I live.

"My friends are envious. They want to know how, without being rich, I ever managed to retire on a life income. The answer is simple: When I was 40, I discovered the Phoenix Mutual Plan.

"The moment I saw this Plan, I knew it was just what I needed. Through it, I could get a life income of $150 a month in 15 years, protect my family, and even get a disability income if, before I reached 55, total disability stopped my earning power.

"Best of all, I could do all this through long-term, easy payments, and for far less money than ordinary investments require.

"Today, at the comparatively early age of 55, I have the things I want—life-long security, the opportunity to travel, to hunt and fish, to live fully and well. I can laugh at worries. I can be sure of comfort and happiness in the years ahead—with a guaranteed income of $150 a month for life."

This story is typical. Wouldn't you like to make sure of your own future? Wouldn't you like to find out, for yourself, how the Phoenix Mutual Plan works? You can get the facts, without obligation, by sending for the free booklet offered below.

Send for Free Booklet

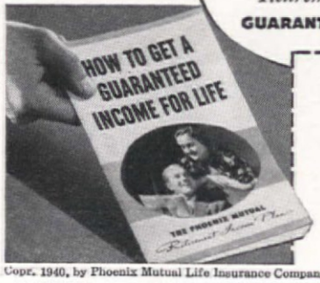
Send the coupon below and you will receive, by mail and without charge, a booklet which tells all about the Phoenix Mutual Plan. In a simple, illustrated way, this booklet explains how to get a life income of $10 to $200 a month or more, starting at age 55, 60, 65 or 70. It shows how to fit the Plan to your own needs, large or small. Don't delay. Don't put it off. Send for your copy *now*.

ESTABLISHED 1851

PHOENIX MUTUAL

Retirement Income Plan

GUARANTEES YOUR FUTURE



Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company
395 Elm St., Hartford, Conn.
Please send me by mail, without obligation, your book describing the PHOENIX MUTUAL RETIREMENT PLAN.

Name_____

Date of Birth_____

Business Address_____

Home Address_____

Copr. 1940, by Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company



Until zoning ordinances are adopted, people can take such steps as this to discourage erectors of eyesores and hazards

YOUR TOWN is what *You* make it!

FLORENCE B. BAKER

IN THE long day's journey, the town with the pleasant dooryards and the planted roadsides is the one you lingeringly remember. The grimy, grubby one is put from your mind as soon as its dust is shaken from the wheels of your car.

What is behind this neglect that makes so many communities unattractive? The houses may be tidy enough, the front lawns are perhaps neatly cared for, but the individual picture is lost in the general effect of the shabby community. No one has had the foresight to regard his town as a whole.

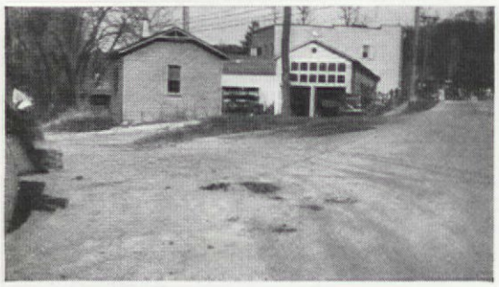
On the other hand, drive through the tree-shaded streets of a well-kept small town, and you know immediately that behind its trim hedges and vine-covered doorways are home owners with a community conscience. They see the neighborhood about them as a wider garden, as much their own as though a picket fence enclosed it and the tax book confirmed it. Theirs is indeed the long and larger view.

Eight years ago a home owner went to the town hall of a certain Long Island community and suggested that the unemployed be put to work cleaning up the town. This request had an electric effect on the community officials who were at a loss to know how to handle the then new problem of unemployment. Within a month, every truck in town had been commandeered and three hundred men were at work on a housecleaning of major proportions. The women of local clubs organized to form a roadside committee and planned every step of the clean-up, listing rubbish heaps that had long been accumulating. Old automobile heaps were tackled; ravines and gullies—favorite spots for the careless to use in disposing of their rubbish—were raked clean. When the job was finished, the townspeople saw to it that an item was put in the budget to insure the permanent benefits of the work.

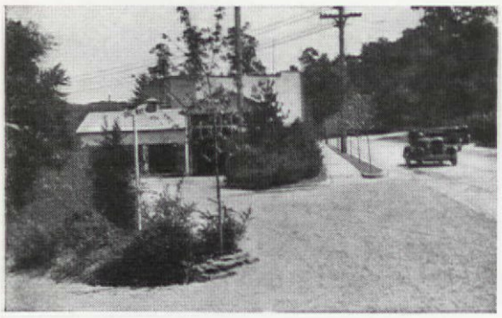
What next to do with the men out of work? The Town Fathers had come to depend on the volunteer committee members who were willing to labor night and day if need be, and fell in with the next step as readily as they had accepted the clean-up idea. Accordingly, a landscape program was soon under way.

In the center of the town lay a neglected field, a catchall for wind-blown papers and other rubbish as such a place is bound to be. Long ago it had been the common of the early settlers and around it were some of the oldest houses on Long Island. As a Work Relief project, the field was cleared and prepared for planting. Eager citizens donated trees and shrubs, and eventually the spot emerged as a meadowlike green, with its almost forgotten brook (now cleaned out and beautified) an important feature. One citizen, whose dream this town green had been for years, gave over three hundred trees and shrubs for a boundary planting that further enhanced the result.

When government funds were temporarily suspended and an interruption of the work threatened, the local high school gave a repeat performance of an historical pageant, sold a prodigious number of tickets, and carried the payroll well over the immediate emergency.



A good example of what a little thoughtful, inexpensive planting can do to a raw, commercialized corner at a community entrance



As It Was



First Step



AND TODAY!



Photographs by the author

Three stages in restoring to a long neglected field its former beauty and real estate value as the village "common"

Before the grass on the new green had sprouted, the idea had spread to another village located on a harbor in the same township. Here a green was planned on a hillside shaded by fine old trees. This area was created, as often happens, by a new broad highway which, entering the village, swings away from the old route to avoid a dangerous curve. In this case, the result was wholly advantageous, since it left the little village at the head of the harbor on the winding lower road separated by the hillside from the main stream of traffic. The island thus formed was covered by a thicket of briars which caught and held every-

Heiress-brides have percale sheets, of course...

Now Cannon brings them to budget-brides too!



Cannon

PERCALE SHEETS

MADE BY THE MAKERS OF CANNON TOWELS

$1.49*

TIME WAS when percale sheets were a luxury that only RICH GIRLS could afford to have in their trousseaux.

But now...even the girl who buys her trousseau out of a limited budget can afford these soft, petal-smooth sheets.

For Cannon is making a percale sheet that costs just about the same as heavy-duty muslin!

Lucky... today's bride-to-be! Lucky any woman whose linen closet is about to be replenished.



Beauty and a Long Life! Cannon Percale Sheets will wear for years, because they're woven with 25% more threads to the square inch than even the best-grade muslin. Laundry tests have proved that Cannon Percale Sheets can take four years' washings and *still* come up white and smiling!



Lighter Weight — Lighter Work! Because Cannon Percale Sheets are so very much lighter than heavy muslin, you'll find them much easier to handle in the tub. And if you send your laundry out at pound rates, this lighter weight can save you as much as $3.25 per year, per bed!

In Decorator Colors, Too! Cannon Percale Sheets are also available (at slightly higher prices) in peach, azure, maize, pink, jade, dusty rose. All Cannon Percale Sheets come to you packaged—immaculate—ready for use. A convenient "size label" is sewn into the hem of every sheet.

Cannon Muslin Sheets are another superior value. They sell for about a dollar... an outstanding product at a low price.

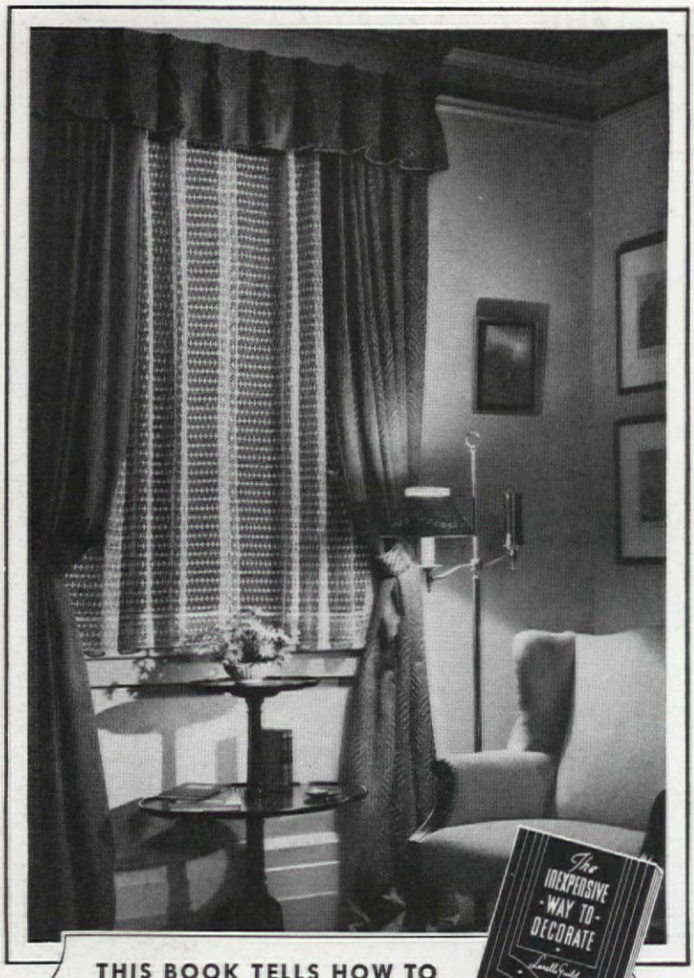
Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping Magazine as advertised therein.

NEWS! Cannon Hosiery! Pure silk... full-fashioned... sheer and lovely... better made to cut down "mystery runs!" Ask about Cannon Hosiery at your favorite store.

TRADE MARK MADE IN U.S.A. **CANNON**

**Prices may vary slightly due to different shipping costs and seasonal fluctuations of market prices.*

CANNON MILLS, INC., NEW YORK, N. Y.



THIS BOOK TELLS HOW TO

Achieve

BEAUTIFUL ROOMS

The Inexpensive Way

THE creation of beautiful rooms is neither difficult nor expensive—as you will discover when you read Lurelle Guild's latest book, "The Inexpensive Way to Decorate."

This authoritative book, with 18 illustrations in full color, tells and shows how to obtain *correct* decorative effects through proper furniture placement and the simple expedient of *recurtaining*. Nothing else you can do will take less time, cause less bother, cost less or do more to transform a room than lovely lace net curtains.

This year's Scranton Craftspun* Curtains are exquisite, styled to meet every decorative need. They are woven entirely of double- and triple-ply threads so they will wear and launder beautifully. All have perfectly tailored, matched hems and are ready-to-hang.

Send for Lurelle Guild's book, today, and learn how easy it is to decorate this inexpensive way. Only 10 cents, to cover mailing costs.

Scranton CRAFTSPUN CURTAINS

"THE NET OF THEM ALL"

*Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

Scranton Lace Company, 400 Glen St., Scranton, Pa. I enclose 10 cents for my copy of "The Inexpensive Way To Decorate," fully illustrated.

Name_____

Street_____

City State

thing that blew its way, but soon it was cleared of undergrowth and planted. In the sunny portions were placed masses of bayberry and sumac, and in the shade were set laurel and azalea which, with dogwood, birch, and cedar, were given by near-by residents. The day arrived on which to count the gains of a landscaping program which had lasted three years. It was revealed that twenty acres of eyesores had become beauty spots.

You can't keep a good idea down and this story, with variations, could now be told in almost any part of Long Island. The home owner's horizon is no longer his own property line. He knows that a poor-looking town directly affects his property value. Real estate promoters, too, have caught the idea, and plant as they build.

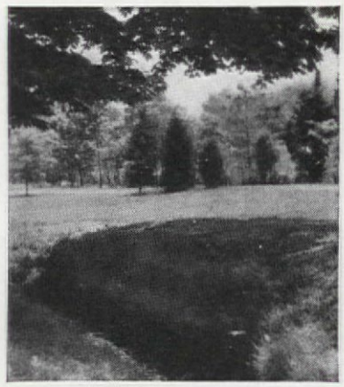
The growing pains of this kind of civic enterprise are, of course, still being felt in some communities. In one, for instance, on the fringe of New York City in a congested business section, small green concrete islands interrupt the flow of traffic. Surmounting these islands, are earth mounds dotted with jagged stones of cobble size, like currants on a cup-cake and crowning all this glory is a sign presenting the compliments of a local official to a long-suffering public! In another instance, an official with better intentions than judgment planted a row of small unhappy-looking junipers at intervals through the business streets. On the whole, however, officials work in complete coöperation wherever civic groups give them half a chance.

Today Work Relief is an old story, but judging from its fruits in many localities, the administrators are just as barren of ideas as they were in the beginning. They need the guiding hand of the home owner who takes pride in his home town in order to get the proper returns from this great tax burden.

Miles of concrete curbs and gutters are being installed with slight regard for the character of the countryside until rural areas take on a suburban look. Miles of concrete sidewalks invade wooded sections where they are a positive desecration; in wilderness areas without a single house in view, such sidewalks have long been waiting for a single pedestrian to use them.

These misfortunes can be laid directly at the door of the townspeople. The pressure for jobs is constant and unless civic groups keep ahead of it with demands for projects of real value to the community, the officials will fall back on concrete as the easiest way out. In this way countless trees have been lost, since they are only obstacles in the path of a project. It is essential that local administrators be taught the value of trees and park areas and the policy of conserving native plant material.

But planting is not planning and it will not permanently protect any neighborhood from ugliness. The modern way is to zone. Zone to keep business where it belongs. Zone to keep signs and billboards under proper regulation. How else can anyone know what will happen to vacant property beyond his garden wall? The man who wakes to find a gas station or a roadside stand being built just outside his breakfast



window has no redress unless his town has an ordinance regulating the use of property.

One man, who built his house squarely to face a lovely meadow with a wooded hill beyond, had a bad moment when he saw a truck drive into the field and discharge a gang of workmen prepared to erect there a huge billboard. But a zoning ordinance had just been adopted in his town, and to his unspeakable relief, it could be and was invoked to stop this operation.

Signs and billboards put skids under property values in rural and residential areas. They have properly been called "A blot on nature." This year more states than ever before are having bills introduced in their legislatures planned to control outdoor advertising. Home owners everywhere should support these measures. But don't wait for the completion of the whole program before starting the clean-up work and planting operations. Often the small beginning of a simple planting project will stimulate public interest to the point where a comprehensive campaign for zoning follows. Plant your town by all means. Your own garden deserves that setting. But don't stop there. Safeguard it by every modern method you know of.

Real estate values in any town reflect the cleanliness of its highways, the beauty of its plantings, and its freedom from the disfigurement of signs or billboards.



Do you know the first secret in planning a bathroom with the unusual charm of this?

"No two ways about it," advise leading decorators, "the place to begin your room-planning is the floor. Establish your colors *there*—and the rest of the room will almost take care of itself! Floors have come into their own," they tell us, "since the makers of Nairn Linoleum pioneered in bringing rich and subtle hues to inlaid linoleum—wine shades, delicate pastels, brilliant jewel tones. *Today* a Nairn Linoleum Floor is the ideal foundation for a color scheme! Use it," they add, "either as a striking sweep of color from wall to wall, or as a harmonious background for a fabric rug. You'll find the Nairn patterns a real inspiration for a beautiful bathroom—or for any other room!"

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS: Is a Nairn Linoleum Floor practical in a bathroom? Yes! It is satin-smooth and easy to keep spotless—and it's splash-proof! The occasional use of Nairn Self-Polishing Wax keeps it fresh and smiling. It looks lovely, but is it expensive? No, the modest cost of a Nairn Linoleum Floor will amaze you. Also, Nairn gives you the biggest improvement in inlaid linoleum in 20 years—*the factory-applied adhesive back.* Laid direct to the floor, Nairn Adhesive Linoleum provides an extra strong installation—at *no* extra cost! You can't do better than decide on Nairn—for *any* floor in your home. Ask your dealer about it!

CONGOLEUM-NAIRN INC., KEARNY, N. J., ALSO MAKERS OF NAIRN WALL LINOLEUM

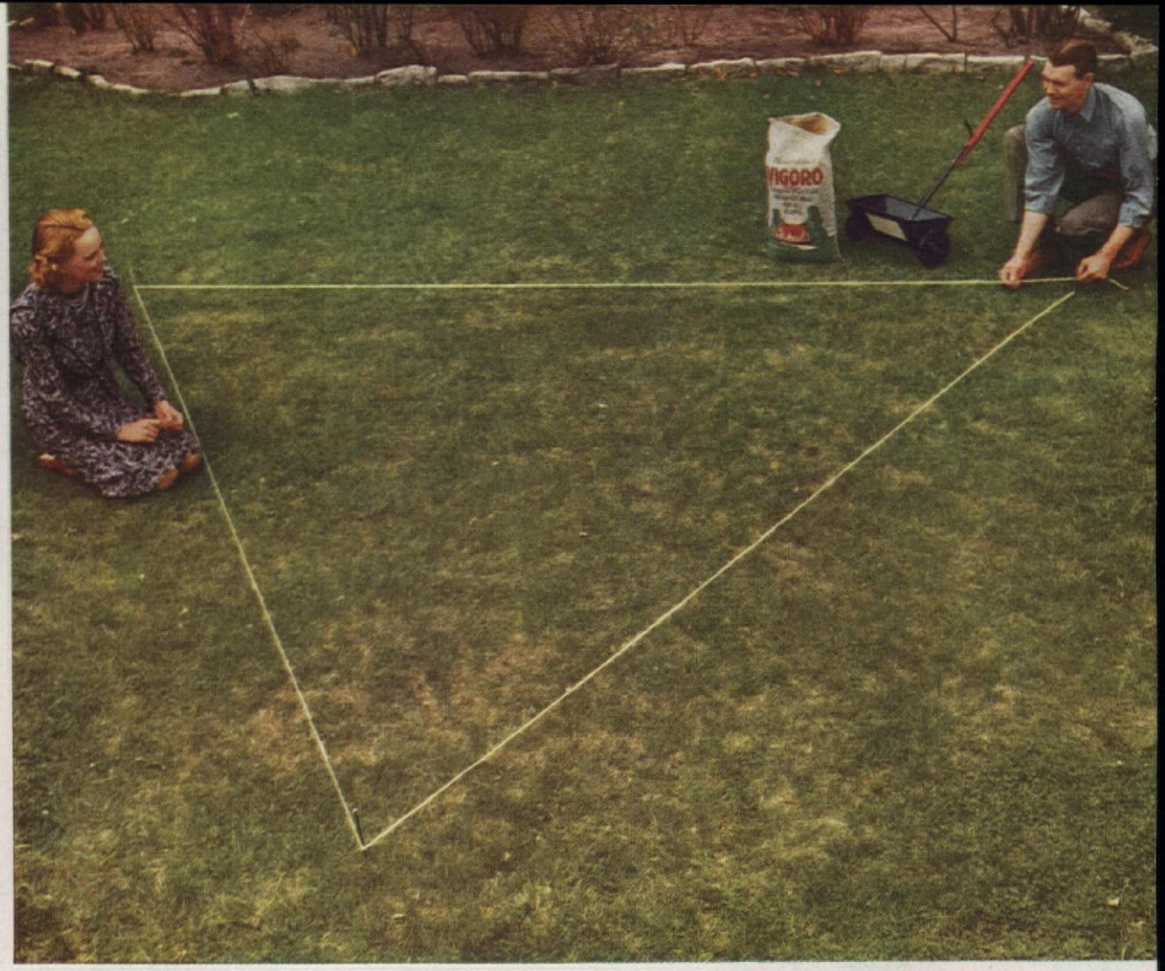
A BOOK TO HELP YOU! There's a wealth of room photographs and decorating information in our book, *"Where Do Lovely Rooms Begin?"* Send 10¢ to Box 50, Congoleum-Nairn Inc., Kearny, New Jersey. The charm of this bath is heightened by the flowers and lattice-like strips set in the Nairn Floor ("Estonia," A7262). "Personal-ize* your floors this clever way with inexpensive, ready-cut Nairn insets, feature strips and borders! (Walls and cabinets covered with Nairn Wall Linoleum, "Coral," 7975. Table top, "White," 1113; floor border, "Mahogany," 1104.

*Trademark Registered

NAIRN ADHESIVE SEALEX LINOLEUM

FIRST CHOICE IN FLOORS FOR TODAY'S LOVELIEST ROOMS





THIS DEMONSTRATION of Vigoro's magic on grass began on April 25, 1939, as professional photographer A. George Miller prepared to record its effect with before-and-after Kodachrome pictures. It was on the lawn of Mrs. Irving K. Betz, 6508 Forest Avenue, Hammond, Ind. Miller's first photograph (immediate right) shows the "Magic V" outline made with three pegs and some twine. Vigoro was then applied *inside* the triangle only, a regular Vigoro Spreader putting it on at the recommended rate of four pounds per one hundred square feet. The pegs and twine were removed, the entire lawn watered thoroughly.

For two weeks the *entire* lawn was watered as usual and it was mowed once. No special attention was given to the area that was fed. (Continued on opposite page.)

VIGORO magic

RECORDED BY KODACHROME



PERHAPS YOU SAW "ROSES ON PARADE" at the New York World's Fair. 8000 rose bushes in a garden of breathtaking beauty! That magnificent display was arranged by the famous Jackson and Perkins Company, Newark, N.Y. . . . and the entire garden was fed exclusively with Vigoro! Vigoro was also the approved plant food of the Golden Gate International Exposition at San Francisco.

For professional horticulturists and plain home gardeners alike, Vigoro has been producing gratifying results for 15 years. On lawns, flowers, shrubs, vegetables and trees, the vital action of this *complete* plant food has brought gardening success to millions. Feed everything you grow with Vigoro.







THEN, ON MAY 12TH Miller went out again with his Kodachrome film. The photo he got is shown at the right. Look what Vigoro did—in just 17 days. No need *now* for pegs and twine to mark where Vigoro went to work! Thick, luxuriant, silky grass, inches higher, rich green in color, strong and healthy, has filled the "Magic V"! Notice how it contrasts with the sparse growth around it.

These photographs give proof of the wisdom of feeding grass a *complete plant food*. Vigoro *always* works because it supplies *all 11* vital food elements that growing things need from soil. You can make this demonstration on your lawn—or gamble with ordinary fertilizers. But why do either? *Vigoro your entire lawn* before the grass begins to grow—even before the frost is gone.

Grass on an ordinary lawn, Roses at N.Y. World's Fair, Vegetables in a leading University's greenhouse test... in unretouched photographs... all show the amazing effects of a complete plant food.







TESTS ON VEGETABLES at the Botanical Greenhouse of a famous University prove that lack of *just one* of the eleven needed food elements will cause a complete or partial failure. All these radishes were grown in pots of sterile sand and given distilled water to drink. Their feeding varied. That fat, solid radish at the upper left was given all eleven elements. The next one to it got all but nitrogen, and the others, in order, lacked only phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulphur, boron, iron, copper, zinc and manganese. Even in the pots the difference was evident... pot C, for instance, with complete feeding, and pot –B with its lack of the unfamiliar but vital element, boron. For yield... and flavor, too... feed all your vegetables Vigoro, the complete plant food.



THIS CLOSEUP further emphasizes the amazing effects of Vigoro-feeding on the above lawn. Vigoro produces grass so thick and sturdy that in time it actually *chokes out* weeds!



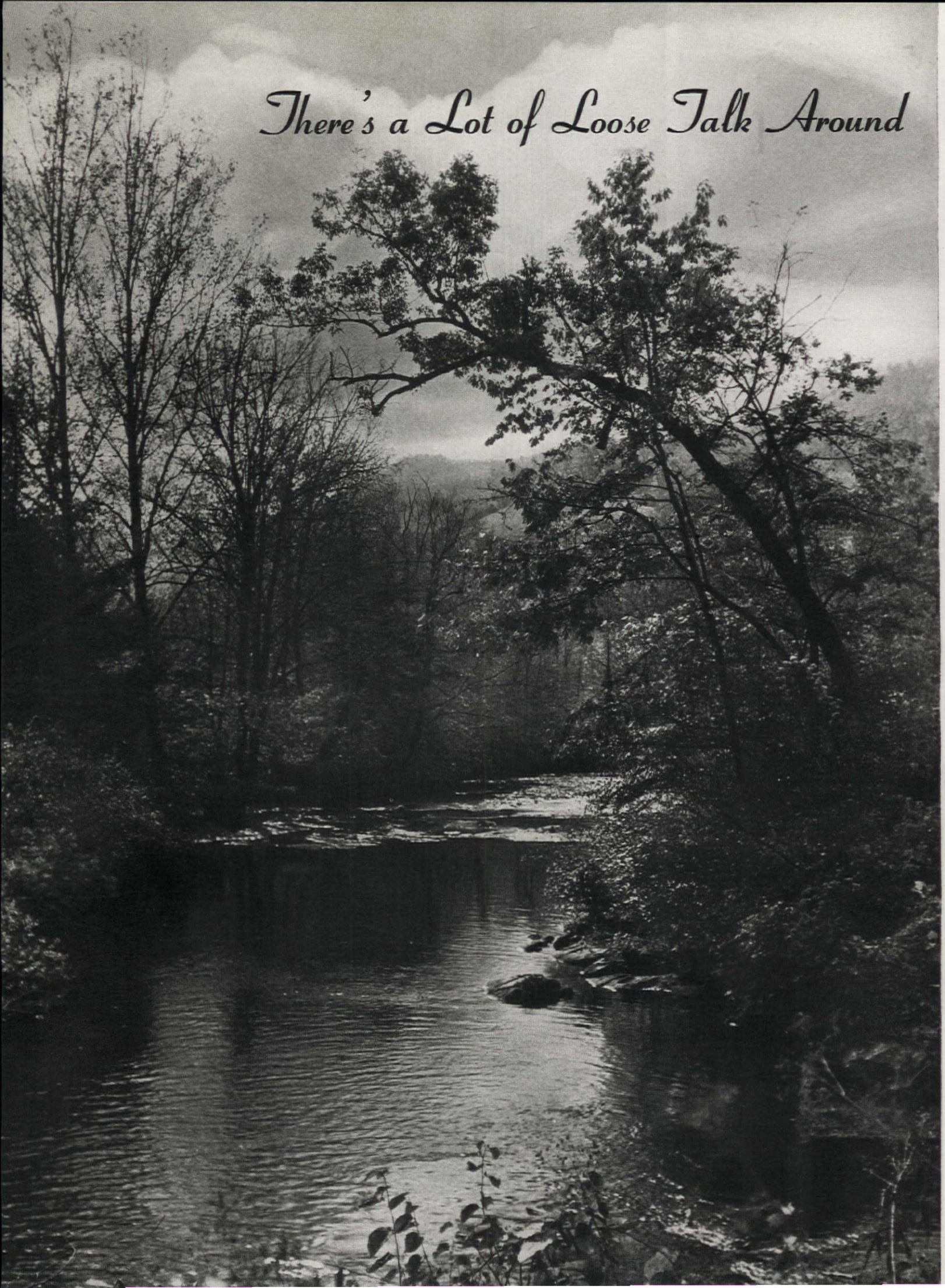
Feed everything you grow with

VIGORO

A PRODUCT OF SWIFT

Supplies all the food elements needed from soil

FEED YOUR LAWN EARLY, before grass starts to grow. Easier then; you don't have to water it in. (Water down, however, if you live where grass grows year 'round.) Better; grass gets a big jump on weeds. Order Vigoro now, from your dealer; in bags of 100, 50 and 25 lbs.; boxes of 10 lbs., 5 lbs., and 1 lb.


There's a Lot of Loose Talk Around

—But What's Wrong with a Country that Produces This Kind of Courage—Real "Guts"?

We say there's nothing wrong! Not when one young couple does everything from clearing the land to building their own home, two young men build a half-mile road as well as a stone house, and still others prove that you can give a bridge tea for sixteen on a $3.50 budget, redecorate with only a few wallpaper remnants, grow a garden on a 60° slope. These down-to-earth examples prove what can be done with imagination, perseverance, and, in many cases, good plain "guts." In the editorial offices we call this our "where there's a will there's a way" issue. And that is what it really is. But let us emphasize that we have *not* gone out into the highways and byways to gather sensational examples to prove our points. These articles came into us in the regular process of the year's work—submitted not as lurid journalism or impossible magic, but as matter-of-fact accomplishments. These are honest success stories in every sense of the word.

Now you've probably read breezy little pieces about doing things with a flourish and being smart on a budget—without even moving from your smug, comfortable chair. So have we. But when stories like the ones in this issue are part of our morning's mail we sit up, take notice, and get excited. It's a pretty queer sensation for us to be so proud of some of the things we have a chance to show people, but that is what we are right now! These are the stories of our readers, our friends it would seem, since they told us these stories quite voluntarily, and we are tremendously proud of their accomplishments and the right to tell others about them. They seem to us to have proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the gentle art of living is about the most exciting thing there is—if you want to work at it.

It is with that sense of excitement that we present this issue of The American Home. Not at all suppressed, no understatement about it, and no flourish either, because that would be impertinent and, moreover, might give the impression that these things were out of the way and tremendously difficult. Which in a way, of course, is true, but they are so tremendously worthwhile that our matter-of-fact writers seem to have forgotten about the difficulties. We are proud of our readers who made this issue possible. They have given us all a push in the right direction, made us realize that it wasn't finding the 10c remnant of the bargain lot that was important—it was how and why it inspired us. This leaves us with a lot to live up to. We'll never know much about the art of living until we pick up a brush and begin.—The Editors



←IF THIS is your idea of Heaven, you won't be interested in this story—but our author called this "The Gateway to Eden"→





"It doesn't call for so much courage, either. Rather a reorganization of one's sense of values. If a home means more than anything in the world, let all else take second place..."

"HELEN HOUSEWIFE"

Photograph on opposite page by William G. Houskeeper

Family of 5 . . . Salary $85 a month —and a home of our own!

Every female creature and most families want a home. When the piles of bones got too high, the neolithic woman undoubtedly collared her brawny mate and said, "Dear, you simply *must* give up so much dinosaur chasing and find us a cave where the air is better."

It is a well-known fact that the female bird is most exacting in the choice of nesting sites and the placing of building material, and I doubt if there is a woman, rich or poor, who can pass up a house plan in the evening paper without at least one appraising glance at its possibilities.

But, granting that we all desire an adequate home, what are the chances for some of us of getting one? Pretty flimsy.

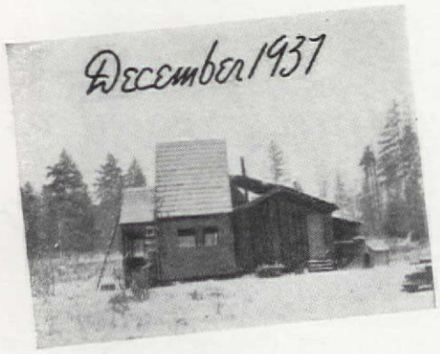
Many newly constructed houses rent for an average of $7 a room so that even four rooms come to $28 a month—which is almost 33% of the income of those of us on the educational staff who get $85 a month.

And *this* is only renting—when a family dreams of building its own home--phew! The simplest little plans call for $3000, which is almost as far out of our reach as the desirable plans which call for from $6000 to $9000. Then too one must have a lot! . . .

I should not be writing this if we were not proving that there is a way out. And I have not waited until our home is completed, for that may take several more years. *But* we have done enough to prove that there is hope even for those who are living on $85 a month —if they have the courage.

It doesn't call for courage so much, either. It asks more for a reorganization of one's sense of values. Do you want a home more than anything else in the world? Then let *everything* else take second place. The courage must come into play when those other wants try to climb up into first place. Very well. What have we done that gives us a right to speak?

Our regular salary is $85 a month. Occasional earnings, Christmas and birthday checks, may bring the total close to $100 a month. There are five in our family. Since







June of 1937 we have built two units of a large, well-built house. A kitchen and bedroom unit first, then the main part of the house, including the big living room which we are now finishing.

During this time we have made two $60 payments on our land, we have bought a new (to us) car, and built a tractor. We have been deliciously well fed, the children's health has improved 100%, and we have never been more than $150 in debt (except for the land) and do not intend to be!

HOW? We moved way into the country; we went without everything of minor importance; we substituted our own for boughten labor in every possible field. A big garden furnishes a large part of our living, and I can hundreds of quarts of edibles. The children and I wear made-over clothes almost exclusively. We see about four 15¢ shows a year. I buy one $1 hat per year.

I realize that not everyone could move twenty miles into the country, but keep in mind that what we did on our income, any family with a proportionately higher salary could do in a city suburb. The biggest drawback for most people, I imagine, is making up their minds to do without electricity and running water, even for a time. I can only say that such a sacrifice isn't as hard as it sounds.

We live in a north-west state where logged-off lands are to be had very cheap. My husband was paying for one ten-acre tract when we married, and had an option on the adjoining ten acres which we have since taken up. We pay $60 twice a year, and stiil owe $200 on our twenty acres. It will probably take us three more years to pay for it entirely. But what of it? Think of having *twenty acres!* Twenty acres for the children to roam and explore. Twenty acres of privacy and beauty. Garden and fir trees, birds, wild flowers, and deer on our own estate. Could millionaires have much more?

Of course it isn't as easy to get it as to read about it. When my husband first came out here, it took two men all afternoon to clear a place large enough to set up a tent. By the time the children and I moved out here, three years later, we had a one-room shack, 14x17, made of one layer of rough boards lined with building paper on the inside. The building paper was a particularly gloomy gray, and there were two very small windows. About 2½ acres were cleared, the roadline was fenced, a big shed-garage was built—mostly of wood taken from the place; there was a well with a pump, and—best of all—there was a refrigerator-tight root house built of logs which stays a good steady 56° in temperature summer and winter.

We lived in that shack exactly one year and two weeks. We had no electricity and no running water. The wind got under the roof and billowed the ceiling paper up and down in weird and chilling fashion. The mice and ants got into and ate everything left uncovered or unlocked, including my furs and two tablecloths. The floor was always cold and the room was always dark.

But I was never so happy in my life! It was "a poor thing, Sir, but mine own." It was the first step towards home. We were never indoors except on days of heavy storm, and outside were space and beauty in every direction. I did all my canning on an outdoor fireplace under a grove of firs, which is really quite an experience.

My husband has to drive to the city, 20 miles away, almost every day to his classes, and gas is a major item in our budget, but we would rather pay for gas and live on our own place than try to live in any such place as the gas money would rent for us in town.

We spent hours of that first summer planning, studying plans, dreaming and scheming—but never could decide on any one plan as being perfect. Finally one Saturday in September, my husband went out and began to tear down the woodshed adjoining the shack. "What on earth are you doing?" I asked.

"I'm going to build you a house," he said. "If I wait for you to make up your mind just what you want, we'll live in that shack forever and never get anywhere at all!"

1st UNIT—Kitchen and bedroom $204.00

2nd UNIT—Main part of house $326.04

TOTAL $530.04



Bit by bit for more than two years this plucky family have been building their own home on a wild twenty-acre piece of land in the Puget Sound country. First, a one-room shack, then a kitchen and bedroom unit, finally, a large living room and extra bedroom. It is truly a home made by hand and we doff our hats to the initiative and industry of the family who built it

We had already made certain that the first step must be a large kitchen, with a bedroom over it. The kitchen must be large, because I always wanted a large kitchen and because it must serve as an all-purpose room while we built the rest of the house. For foundation he used large, sound cedar logs—from our woods—resting on boulders. In our mild climate that is sufficient, at least for so small a portion of the house. And then we began the plan which we have had to use since: we order between $20 and $50 worth of building materials. Then we go without and work and sweat and wait until that is used up and paid for—and then order some more!

Presently a structure took form behind the shack that presented an exceedingly humorous appearance from the road. The high-pitched new roof made the shack seem to be wearing a rakish cap, and look slightly drunk. But do you think I cared about that? We were on our way to owning a kitchen 11½′ x 16′, with windows on three sides, all overlooking garden or woods.

The roof was covered with hand-split cedar shakes made from our own wood. The whole house is eventually to be covered with these shakes, which weather in less than a year to a beautiful silvery gray, and last a lifetime. (I, in my abysmal ignorance, didn't even know, at first, the difference between a shake and a shingle; while the words "frow" and "shake-

[*Please turn to page 77*]

A Young Chicago Couple go out to the Puget Sound Country

As told by
NELLIE R. VOLLUM



THIS

+

BEGINNING WITH : :

5 acres, uncleared

30 ft. cabin, former home of blacksmith, his wife, and 13 children

8 miles from source of supplies; transportation, 1 horsepower

Nearest neighbor, ¼ mile

19 years of labor and love =

THIS!



EXTREMELY modest, yet artistic in its natural setting and thoroughly livable, is our "little gray home." Seeking a milder climate and a home that would suit our temperaments and meet our health requirements, we left Chicago one very hot August day and came out to the Puget Sound country where we found just what we were looking for. For nineteen years we have been here in a primitive little "burg," first called Birmingham and later renamed Warm Beach, nineteen miles north of Everett, Washington. At first we were awed by the majestic beauty of the Olympics and the Cascades, but the balmy days and cool nights were wonderful after the intense, almost stifling, summer heat we had left behind us.

Inspired by all the beauty of the place, we little realized how much hard work was to follow in clearing even a small tract of cut-over land. "Stumps to the right of us, stumps to the left of us, volleyed and thundered"—at least, they did later on—but all we saw was the vision ahead, so we purchased a five-acre plot. Only a few trees had been cut down around the rough little eighteen-by-thirty foot cabin which, we were told, formerly housed a family consisting of a blacksmith, his wife, and thirteen children. Hewn logs, put together with huge spikes, formed the interior as well as the exterior of its walls. It was just—and only—a house.

We started off, with the aid of one local man, to dynamite stumps and in time blasted 150 huge derelicts of a former forest of great cedars and firs, leaving huge gaping holes in Mother Earth resembling the aftermath of a mighty battle. The immense, tusklike affairs were gradually piled up and burned, and little by little the ground was cleared for a garden and crops. Strawberries were then bringing a maximum price, and we planned to develop the place into a small strawberry ranch. But we soon discovered that farmers are not made in a minute and that a city man has not the sort of back that such work requires. After a few years, the project was abandoned and my work of landscaping began, as my husband went back to his old work as construction inspector.

In the meantime, work on the house was progressing nicely, but under great difficulties. All our supplies had to be hauled from Stanwood, eight miles north, and when, anxious about the delivery of needed building materials, we inquired at the local store (which also housed the post office), we would be told, "Waal, ef sumpin' pops up, I just may be a-goin to town—but then, too, I mightn't." And usually the latter happened. However, we did acquire something of great value and that was unlimited patience.

To begin with, we raised the shake (homemade shingle) roof, adding additional logs to fill in the sides; hung seven casement windows (brought up by boat from Everett) and a Dutch door; laid double floors, and built a large rock fireplace, the outstanding feature of the living room. The deep mantel shelf was trimmed below with half rounds of cedar, and the rocks, which went from mantel to ceiling, were framed by cedar. Large cedar posts, unpeeled, were placed between the rooms—or, rather, through the combined living and dining room—and a handmade buffet trimmed with cedar was built in one corner of the latter. All the cedar was oiled thoroughly and the bark is still intact, after nineteen years. A good-sized kitchen (twelve by twelve feet) was added at that time, but for the first few years we lived the primitive life, with no electricity, telephone service, car, or even running water. Only when it rained did we have running water in the kitchen, and that came from a poorly laid kitchen roof. Otherwise, a rain cistern supplied our water, and kerosene was our source of light, while transportation was furnished by Dan, our good old horse, who took us to town in a gaily painted buckboard.

We took it all as a great experience and as pioneering. Life, they say, "begins at forty," and so my career as rancher and gardener started at that point. I accompanied my husband on the trip required by his first contract, but after that, realizing that if I continually followed the trail, the development of a home for our old age (and how fast it creeps up!) would not progress very rapidly. I planned to remain at home and keep the good work going. And never a lonesome moment did I have, not even when alone for eleven months at a stretch. A busy woman has no time for "aloneness" even though situated, as I was, a fourth of a mile from the nearest neighbor.

Gradually light, telephone, furnace, water, and automobiles came, and eight years ago we completed the remodeling of our little seven-room unit house—living room, dining room, two bedrooms, bath, kitchen, and office. The front boudoir, facing west toward a

[*Please turn to page 107*]

After the two foregoing stories of "guts" and fortitude, all else will seem a little soft? On the contrary! For, while we do not wish to minimize such heroic accomplishments, not all of us can be pioneers of such sturdy cloth, and it takes perhaps even more courage, certainly as much imagination, to see possibilities in the drab commonplaces of everyday things...Here we show you three old houses, not old enough to have charm and "atmosphere," just old enough to be "seedy" and dreary. But, because these houses are so often in the most convenient, desirable residential sections, because there are so many of them, we think these three transformations as real examples of "guts" as are the first two stories



Alfred Cook

CASE I . . . *Connecticut, but definitely* **NOT** *quaint New England atmosphere!*

20 L. LIVINGSTON GEORGE, *Owner and Architect*

THE house in Westport which Mr. L. Livingston George fixed up for himself is a good example of successful remodeling because it shows how a thoroughly nondescript, unpersonable little house was made agreeably livable. Some persons think remodeling means finding some romantic old mill, schoolhouse, or chicken coop and putting more money into it than it's worth. But it doesn't. Houses of this type, plain Janes, with no style or "come hither," of no great age, and in tolerable condition are much better bets for average living requirements. Most communities have plenty of them, and they can be bought for reasonable sums. An architect's or builder's inspection will disclose whether their structure is sound or jerry built. But the decrepit, tumbledown old ruins which people sometimes seek for their historical association or for their "quaintness" are usually ultra expensive to buy and to restore for everyday living. They are better left to those who can really afford to devote their time and money to the task of restoration and do it with an archaeologist's care.

Most of Mr. George's changes were done inside the house but the simple exterior improvements, the altered windows, demolished porch, new door, chimney, and enlarged dining room wing give a pleasant Colonial character and a new lift to the whole place. The outside walls and roof remain the same except on the dining room where walls were pushed out several feet on all three sides and a new roof was extended down from the main roof to cover this wing. A new dormer built in the roof extension made it possible to introduce a generous triple window in the bedroom above and increase its size.

The original first floor plan was a living room, dining room, hall, and kitchen. The living room was a mean space with two windows and

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CASE II . . . *Post-earthquake Berkeley*

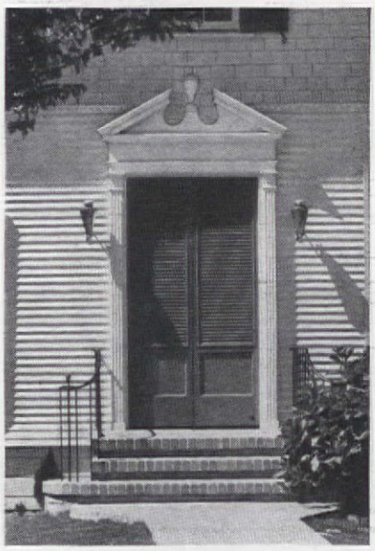
More space . . . more style . . . more value after remodeling this frame house in California

HELEN BELL GRADY

STUDY the remarkable improvement in this home carefully and you will find that no sleight of hand or magic was necessary to transform it. The changes didn't call for ripping out the whole interior or jacking up the entire roof. This wasn't one of those large-scale engineering projects where a simple little cottage is turned into a great mansion at a cost of thousands of dollars. Approximately ten feet of space was added to the left end of the living room and to two bedrooms above, a sunroom was tucked onto the dining room, and a new garage was built. The removal of the old front porch and third floor dormer, followed by new front windows and an entrance doorway, completed the remodeling.

It all started because Mrs. McEneany wanted an open fireplace in her living room. The original frame house, with its narrow white clapboards on the first story walls and dark shingled second story walls, was a type frequently built twenty to thirty years ago in Berkeley, in fact, all over the country. It had a fireplace in the dining room but none where you'd want one, in the living room. The living room wasn't large enough either, the bedrooms were inadequate, and closet space was poorly arranged. When dissatisfaction with the house reached the boiling point the family began looking for a new place, but they couldn't find anything in the same suburb at the price they wanted to pay. Then Mrs. McEneany started to eye the house speculatively. Could it be "fixed up," improved enough to make it worth the trouble and cost? What would it cost anyway, and what were its remodeling possibilities? The house had been Mrs. McEneany's girlhood home, left to her by her parents, so naturally there was some sentiment attached to it. And it was in just the right location for the family, had a large lot with plenty of garden and play space and commanded a sweeping view of the Berkeley hills.

Architect James H. Anderson was called in to discuss the case and diagnose the patient. Did the house need amputation, corrective treatment, or complete face lifting? He thought the patient could be enlivened out of recognition by a few skillful treatments and





Waters & Hainlin Studios

Off with the old house front and on with the new. A sensible, successful remodeling done with few structural changes and using existing materials wherever possible. Repainting, new windows and doorway, and ten additional feet of space create a new front

JAMES H. ANDERSON, *Architect*

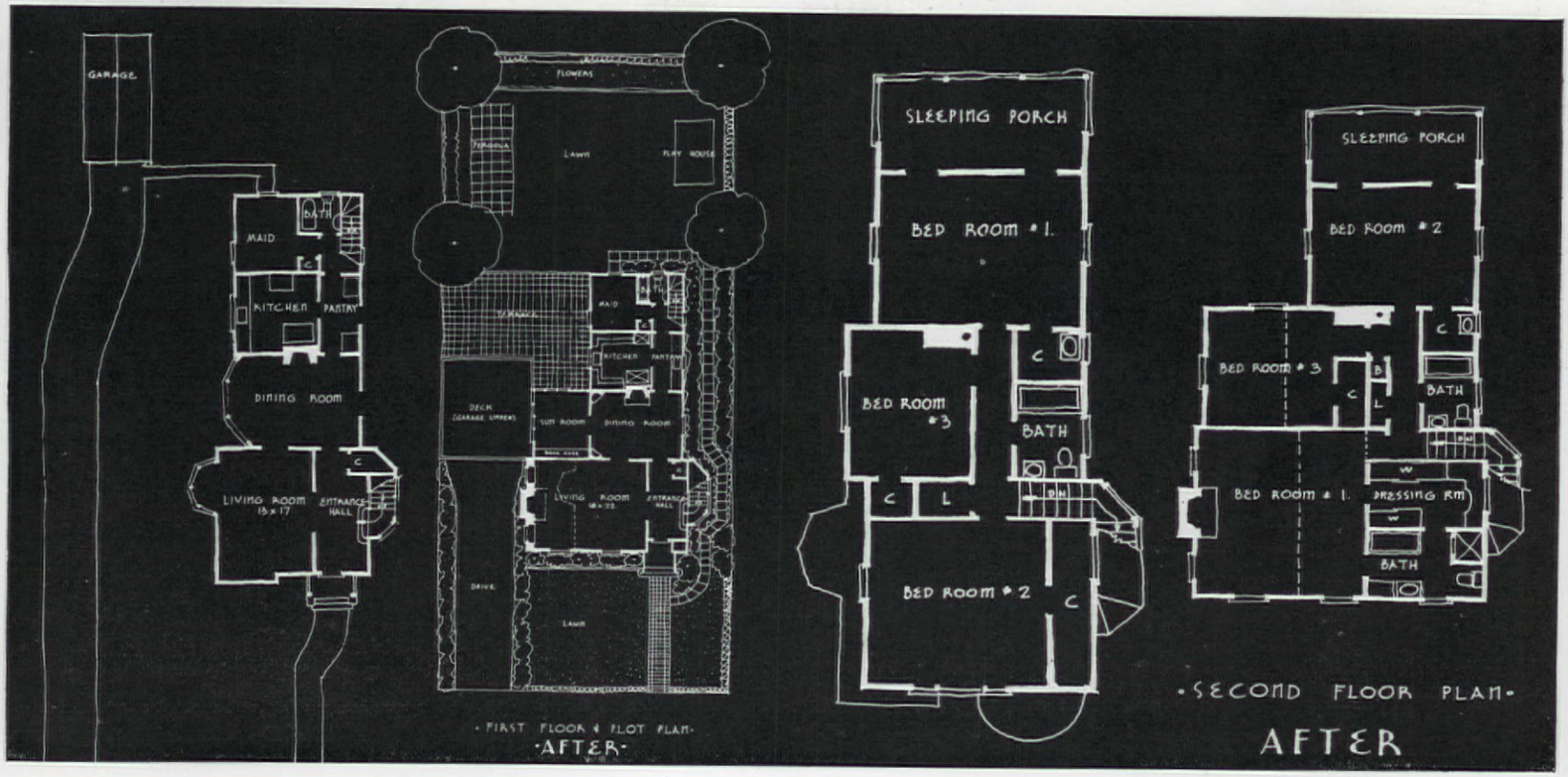


successfully proved it, not only adding a living room fireplace but creating a handsome Colonial house which is well designed outside and well planned inside. The main body of the house was enlarged by adding ten feet to it. Enough space lay between the left side of the house and the adjoining lot to expand in that direction, so that side of the house moved out a bit, enlarging the living room to 18'-0" x 22'-0" and the front bedroom to 18'-0" x 19'-0". (The bedroom also acquired a dressing room unit and a bath.) This extension made it possible to add a 10'-0" x 13'-0" sunroom-study off the dining room and reorganize the middle upstairs bedroom.







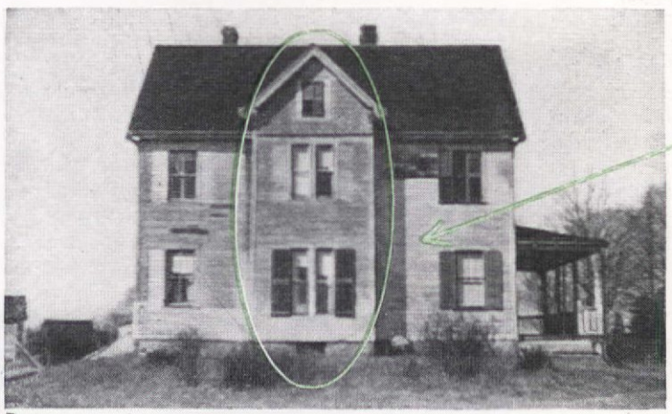


The front addition not only created more space inside but gave the house better width in proportion to its height. Three single, green shuttered windows replaced the outmoded triple window in the front bedroom. Two dignified casement windows of distinctive architectural character were introduced on the first story. Removing the old-fashioned front porch, Mr. Anderson provided a recessed entrance inside a beautiful Colonial doorway. He substituted red brick steps with a wrought-iron railing for the old wood ones, put antique carriage lights on either side of the door and installed long green shutters flush with the exterior doorway. On the second story the new shingles, added to cover the addition and the old shingled walls, were painted white. The original horizontal siding was retained for the first floor walls and the contrast of shingles and siding proved a successful feature of the remodeled house. True Colonial type window sash replaced the

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The greatest real estate bargains in the U. S. A. today are these kinds of houses.. ASK YOUR BANKER! . . . . . .

CASE III . . . *Also without New England charm!*



1

SUBTRACTED!

SCHOLFIELD and DEIMEL *Architects*



SUBTRACTED!

5



2



4 ADDED!

A "hopeless" house in New London, Conn.

THIS house certainly looked as hopeless as any you'd want to see before it was fixed up. It was not only without "New England charm," it hadn't any charm whatsoever, and its only characteristics were its dingy, gawky desolation better suited to a couple of undiscriminating spooks than to a family. Those who would have given tuppence for it must have been few and far between. Yet look at it since it's been remodeled. It's a comfortable, bright looking number, fitting perfectly into its Connecticut landscape like a real old-timer from Colonial days.

The change was brought about without extensive alterations. Our pictures explain the work done. The old gabled bay, projecting out from the dining room and a bedroom on the south side of the house, was taken off and this side became the front of the house. (Pictures 1 and 2.) The dining room window was replaced by a spic and span Colonial entrance doorway and a tiny window was added in the new vestibule closet. New, twelve-pane sash went into the window frames but they remained in place and new shutters were added. On the east

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IS AN OLD HOUSE WORTH REMODELING?

DURING our editorial coast to coast trip through the suburbs and towns of the country last spring we encountered one condition everywhere. The jolly, bright new houses were usually on the outskirts of every community, and disheartened looking older ones occupied the areas where there were fine old shade trees, planting, and desirable views. A sizeable number of them were undoubtedly casualties, homes which the owners were unable to keep up during the depression, whose ownership had gone back to the bank or loan company after the mortgage had been foreclosed. Some of them had been built in the first thirty years of this century, some before that. Some were occupied, some were not, but scarcely anything had ever been done to any of them. Those which were inhabited probably housed 1939 radios and automobiles but the houses themselves were strictly 1905, 1910, 1915, or 1925 vintage. Most of them looked large

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And here is possibly our FAVORITE

The stone house Roger Sturtevant and

And so, by gosh, we have a stone house! That is, part of a house and, having achieved this much, we'll probably build more. It seems silly to justify such an obvious wish; everyone seems to want a stone house. We didn't. All we wanted was an acre of ground with maybe a tree on it. We wanted sun, and we wanted to build ourselves a house, any kind of house, and develop our ground with our own hands just the way we wanted it. That seems a universal desire too. So many people have expressed it to us, but so few do anything about it. How we bridged the gap from "wishing" we had a house actually to having one is our story told you here.

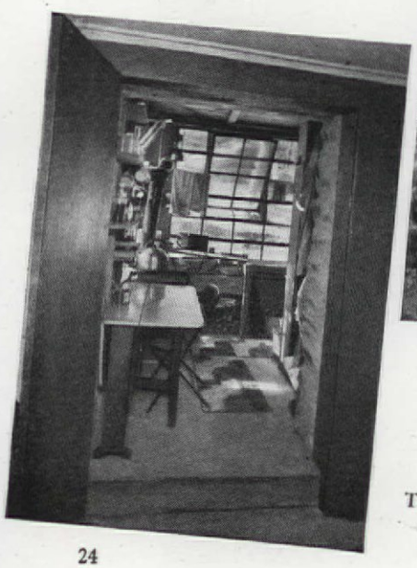
We are my partner and myself. I am Roger Sturtevant and my partner is David Stover, henceforth mentioned as David. We are photographers and have taken lots of pictures of houses for The American Home including these pictures of our own. We both live a crazy sort of existence and, while we don't make much money, we do have fun despite the fact that we groan a lot about the amount of work we have to do, how unappreciated we are, and so on. All photographers do that. If you have an amateur photographer in your home you know that photography is like housework—it is never done; washing prints is more endless than washing dishes. But worse than housework the business of photography admits of no routine. Meeting a deadline means working far into the night, so we decided long ago that work and living space should coincide. But after several years of living in the mad melee of photography seven days a week, we started to think and say to ourselves, "look-here, what-the-heck, life's-too-short." We both started to talk about a place in the country, deciding that five days a week was enough of our mad existence and that two days a week in the country would balance our lives. Now, many of our friends seem to think that our two days in the country are madder than the five in town.

The Chamber of Commerce probably won't like our telling you that San Francisco is foggy and cold during the summer months, as is most of the Northern California coast. But warmth and sunshine are just a short distance away in any direction from the immediate coast. Our budget being what it is, we decided that southward would be the place for us to go. At that time ferry tolls were exacted for travel in any other direction (now we have bridge tolls instead). We wanted a place within a hundred miles distance because that isn't a difficult weekend jaunt from San Francisco. So we answered a newspaper advertisement for a piece of land seventy-five miles south. The result was that we found ourselves making a down payment in short order, not on that property, and not on one acre and a lone tree, but on eighty acres with lots of trees, to say nothing of a creek with three rock pools large enough to swim in. And what's more—the location is just fifty-five miles NORTH!

In our wildest dreams we had never imagined ourselves as the possessors of such magnificence. Our thrifty plans about ferry tolls went by the board for we figured that the nearness of the site would save money on gasoline. The actual cost of the land was ridiculous enough but then most experts would have told us that it was ridiculous for us to buy the property at all. It was more scenery than site. Precipitous and wild, it lay at the bottom of a steep canyon half a mile from the nearest road. A goat trail led to it and a pile of redwood shakes remained from an old cattle shed. When we announced that our acquisition was in Sonoma County, near Glen Ellen, everyone including San Franciscans, looked blank. When we explained that it was in the Valley of the Moon near the old Jack London ranch everyone nodded knowingly. Our naïve city friends agreed that the idea of building a house on the property was wonderful while our new country neighbors were benign and polite. We



Blazing a trail up a wild, precipitous hillside through tortuous underbrush, then constructing a roadway which automobiles could use was only the start of the job these two, self-reliant young men set themselves. They also built their stone house by hand



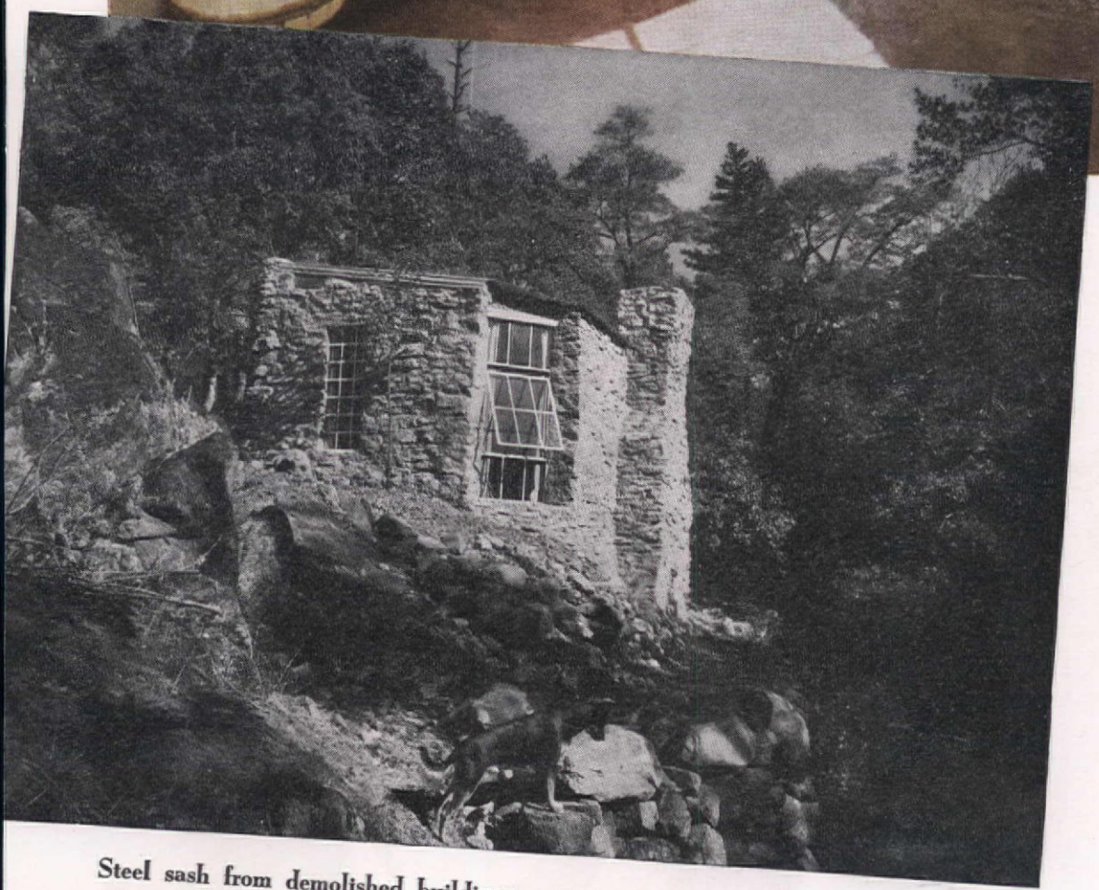
THE KITCHEN, ALAS, LOOKS LIKE A MAN'S IDEA OF A KITCHEN!

Success Story

David Stover built in the Valley of the Moon

"We did not know how to construct a road, build a masonry house or design a fireplace, yet we built them all --and they all work"





found out later that these neighbors had heard of many other grandiose schemes for the place before and none had ever been fulfilled. As for ourselves, after the first fine careless rapture had worn off we began to think we had bought one side of Mont Blanc, the Jungfrau or some other Swiss Alp.

Close inspection of the ground revealed a fine outcropping of flat stone, so we immediately said we would have a stone house. Forest fires are prevalent and stone is certainly fireproof. But we realized that a masonry house would take time, also that we had to have some way of getting down to the location before we could build anything. Since we were limited to the fifty-two week ends in a year, we also realized, despite our overwhelming amateur enthusiasm, that we would need some

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Steel sash from demolished buildings, corrugated sheet iron for the roof, and native stone walls make up the exterior. The furniture was *really* economical; $2.95 for metal chairs, $1 for a gateleg table, almost nothing for dresser, barrels, and cots

Story and photographs
by
ROGER STURTEVANT

Now let's lend a hand to those

Flower Shows in hats and shoes?

Here are suggestions for colorful, intriguing competitive displays. Page 28 tells of real coöperation between a club and an art institute

Sketches by the author





Rubrum lilies in a white slipper

Old Fashioned Bouquet in a high button shoe!

Deep purple petunias in purple satin

Red and yellow tulips in a shiny black galosh!









distressed garden club ladies who—



This season's models CERTAINLY offer unlimited ideas!

I . . . are bored, don't come to meetings

II . . . have no place to hold a flower show

CASE I:

Intriguing the Bored Ones . . . STELLA M. PERKINS

GARDEN clubs are always seeking new ideas for their programs. Some we have tried have proved so very amusing as well as instructive that they seem worth passing along. In our schedule for a recent year's meeting the various topics were designated by appropriate titles of current books, such as: "All This and Heaven Too," for a lecture on the flowers of Hawaii; "If I had Four Apples," for a discussion of espalier fruit trees; and "Fashion is Spinach," which referred to a paper and a contest for members dealing with flowers used as accessories. This last proved especially stimulating, as you will see.

"Hats made from real flowers to be worn at the meeting" read the rules of the contest, which was great fun. The hats, some of which are sketched herewith, were unusually attractive. The exhibition was staged in the manner of a style show, and as each member paraded around the room, the manager read off the name of some famous designer and a fabulous price. Hats were made of everything from red-berried shrubs to snow-on-the-mountain. One small turban of flame colored geraniums was very smart; another, very modern, was trimmed with yellow sunflowers. A Frenchy model was fashioned of hydrangeas, shading from the bronzy greens in front to creamy white in the back and topped with a stiff bow of white tulle. One of the most attractive was made of a braided band of iris leaves with a charming group of flowers in the front—a bright yellow hemerocallis, a small red waterlily, one large, flat white rose, and some glowing buds of the Talisman rose. It is advisable to hold such a contest when garden flowers are most abundant.

In August, which is the time of year when club programs seem to drag a little and you need new interest, we had a contest for "Bouquets arranged in any kind of footwear." The result was amazing and brought out more entries than anything we had ever staged. They included bouquets in baby shoes, riding boots, Mexican huaraches, satin party slippers, and just plain rubbers. The latter, very black and shiny, contained a dazzling bunch of yellow and red zinnias. The riding boots held a sweeping arrangement of black elderberries and goldenrod. The purple satin slipper repeated its color with deep purple petunias against dark, glossy funkia leaves. The bedroom slippers were used for wall-pockets, with graceful curves of lavender and pink verbenas completing the effect. A baby shoe with a bright red lining to the tongue suggested to one member a bunny, which she very cleverly made out of a cactus. An old-fashioned shoe, buttoned to the top, made a cornucopia effect for an old-fashioned bouquet on a lace paper ruff.

Probably by this time you yourself have thought of a clever arrangement that you would like to try in a shoe. The ideas can be very amusing in a flower show. They would be quite appropriate for hunt, riding, or hiking breakfasts, and an arrangement in white satin slippers for a wedding luncheon table would be most unusual.

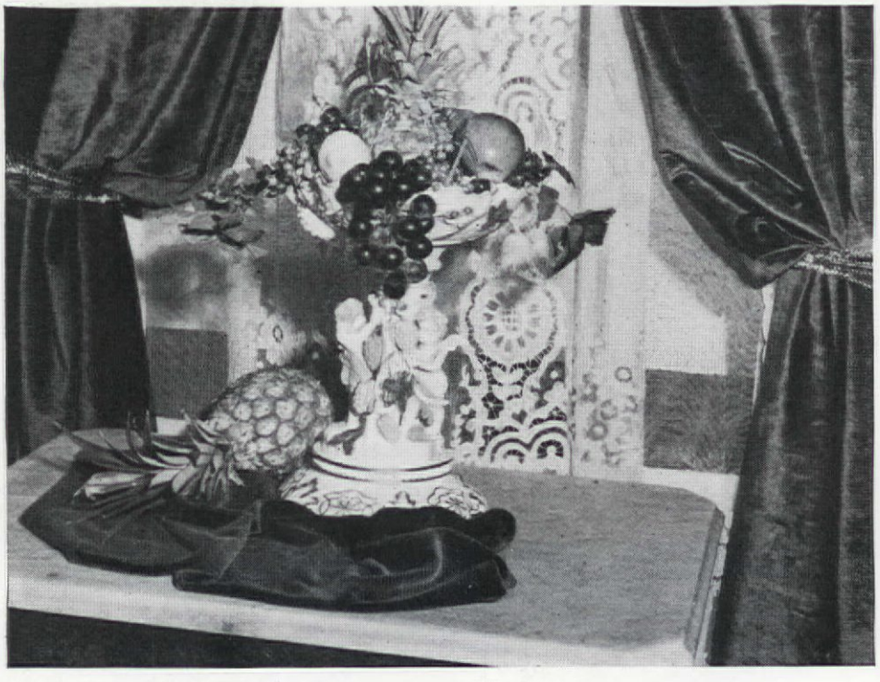
A third kind of flower competition is a smelling contest. How many flowers can you name by smell only? You may be surprised at your score when you are blindfolded and allowed to smell just six different kinds. Two members conducted our contest, one temporarily to blindfold the contestant, the other to hold the blossoms to be guessed. Each was placed in an opaque tumbler so as to hinder detection and to concentrate the odor. Out-of-season flowers are the most puzzling. We held our contest in late summer and a late peony had every one baffled.

Still another contest resembles the last, only you feel instead of smell the material to be identified. For this you may use heads of flowers or foliage. Instead of being blindfolded, the members may feel the objects with their hands in back of them. It is a good plan to divide the club into three parts and assign a member to work with each group. Do not have too many entries in any contest, for one that is too long always proves tiresome. The interest will lie in the novelty of the idea and the smoothness with which it is carried out.





CASE II: No Place to hold your Flower Show? Here's How The



Dayton Art Institute Solved the Problem

WHEN, on June 6, 1939, the four touring editors of THE AMERICAN HOME (see October issue) landed in Dayton, Ohio, they were able not only to visit the interesting and unusual flower show at which the accompanying pictures were taken, but also to inspect the Dayton Art Institute which is doing such a remarkably fine job there. Animated by the feeling that there is much art, beauty, and popular appeal in other things than the usual paintings and sculpture, this Institute, through its lovely gardens, fountains, and birds, its abundant use of decorative plants, and its practical coöperation with local garden clubs, has broadened its activities, interests, and service far beyond the limits of a mere "art gallery." For one thing, it houses the Dayton Garden Center, where the many horticultural groups of the city meet and keep their large floricultural library. And here, spring and fall, are held the flower shows that regularly attract thousands of people who are doubly rewarded, first by viewing the flowers and plants in exceptionally lovely surroundings and, second, by becoming acquainted with treasures of a museum that they might not otherwise have been prompted to visit. In short, it has become a vital, living factor in the community; what its donor, Mrs. H. G. Carnell, its director, Mr. Siegfried R. Weng, and its staff have always hoped it would become—the "living room of Dayton."

That was the setting that contributed so generously to the success of the 1939 spring show of the Little Gardens Club of Dayton about which its president, Mrs. R. M. Lewis writes us as follows:

"Since 1925 when the Club was organized it has held successful spring shows. But although we agree that there is nothing lovelier than a display of the season's first blossoms, we gradually realized that constant repetition tends to lessen the interest of anything—even a flower show. So, late in 1938, we ran a competition to get ideas for a new kind of exhibition and awarded the

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The keynote of the 1939 Dayton, Ohio, spring show was that each entry should "belong" in its respective period setting. Above are Georgian (left) and Victorian fruit bowls. Here a Georgian corner is flanked by two in Early American style







Mary Lou Hanauer



No Ma'am... But neither are we being Pollyannas when we say a long, narrow room can be an ASSET!

It may be long and narrow and badly proportioned, but at least you have space! The problem is how to use it so the two end walls won't seem miles apart and the room itself look like a tunnel or passageway. If you're smart enough to capitalize on its string bean proportions, the final result will be much more interesting than just a nice square room done in a nice accepted way.

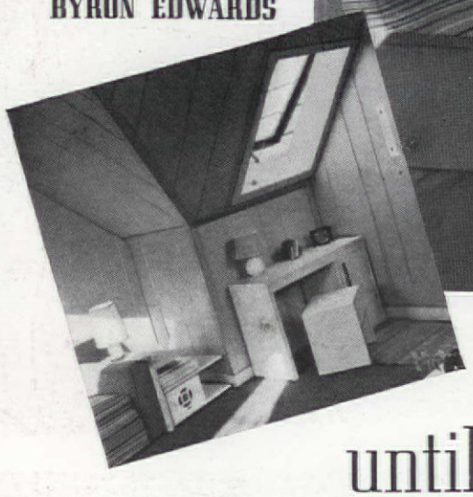
Fortunately, a can of paint doesn't cost much and is all you need for the most important step. You've heard that strong reds and yellows are warm, advancing colors: obviously they attract more attention than sky blue or pale green. Well, simply apply that principle to the end wall and watch it come much closer to the center of things, where it belongs. Now either do something to add architectural interest (bookshelves, for instance) or arrange an important furniture grouping at that end of the room, or both.

In the room shown here we used all of the tricks. The wall, shelves, and desk are painted a vivid coral—you can't miss that color and it most certainly brings the walls forward by two or three feet. By repeating the coral for picture mats, a lamp, small accessories and perhaps side chair upholstery you can further the illusion of tieing the room together. The shelves and cupboards, decorative objects, and large flat-top desk do their share of the job, too. And who says it isn't practical? Extra storage space and a place to study or write are things all of us want but few of us have because the size and shape of so many rooms completely bar extra conveniences. So, you see, a long narrow room has a very definite "silver lining."

If your room doesn't exactly fit into this particular solution, it's easy enough to think up one of your own. Example: wallpaper. Select a paper with bold pattern and bright colors to use on the two end walls. Anything from floral stripes to modern stylized designs, depending on what you like best. Or just paint that end wall a Chinese yellow and group some furniture at right angles to it. If you have a collection of old glass, arrange it on hanging shelves or in an open cupboard, and group chairs on either side. Or have a music group: a console piano, or perhaps your combination radio and Victrola with built-in shelves to house the records. It's all a matter of concentrating some attention on that end wall: warm, advancing colors, interesting architectural features, hobbies or collections, furniture arranged to extend out into the room—any one of these does the desired trick.

BYRON EDWARDS





You don't have to wait until you can AFFORD what you want!

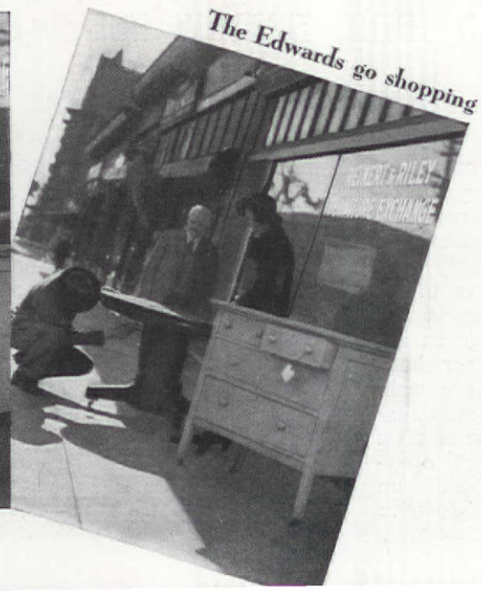
Our drab little apartment may have been compact, but it was just a trifle too cozy for us. You know about those furnished cubicles—a living room with a bed that swings out of a door, a wardrobe dressing room affair not big enough to turn around in, a combination dinette and kitchen. The davenport and one chair to match, "tri-light" covered with comic gadgets, overflowing magazine rack, and the wrought-iron monstrosity hanging from the ceiling and trailing amber fancies certainly inspired no personal interest, either. We were good and tired of the place—and especially tired of paying $45 every month to the landlord and $7 to the utility companies.

Something had to be done about it. So, no matter that it happened to be raining cats and dogs, out we went with the evening paper folded to the "unfurnished apt. to rent." About two hours later and soaking wet, we returned with a deposit receipt on an attic in an old house. It had no furniture and no windows, but it did have large skylights flush on a gabled roof, plenty of space, silvery gray three-ply walls and ceilings, natural hardwood floors and lots of character.

On the fifteenth of the month we moved in with a few suitcases, a trunkful of clothes, some crated dishes, a tiny radio, and a whole world of ambition. Since the kind of furniture you want is usually hard to find and harder to pay for, we had made provisions in our plan to get it the cheapest way. Our $35 a month rent, which includes the utilities, represented a $17 saving over our former overhead: eight months' worth of that sum would pay for our furniture, and in the meantime we could live in an apartment with some claim to originality—a home that actually reflected our own personalities.



The Edwards go shopping



On the afternoon of the day we moved into our attic our first purchases arrived. These consisted of a new spring-filled mattress, for which we had parted with $10.95 at a local department store, and a used coil spring. Both were essential because our plan did not include sleeping on the bare floor.

A few days later we drove a sharp bargain for a few interesting pieces: a small old-fashioned Chesterfield chair of nondescript design and covering; a studio couch, reddish brown in color and quite faded; and another studio type couch which had obviously been made by a cabinetmaker to fit into a corner of someone's house. It was equipped with two large spring-filled seat cushions and four back pillows. The three pieces cost us the princely sum of $27.50.

On succeeding Saturdays, which my wife and I reserved for second-hand store prowling, we came home with a series of objects that alarmed our landlady and amazed our friends. They included a huge old oak bedstead, towering fully six feet, surmounted head and foot by a heavy round pole. Each of these latter weighed a good twenty-five pounds and set off the old edifice to a perfection that must have made the original owner's heart

$140 net—plus some good hard work—completely furnishes an attic home

beat with pride. It came from the jammed mezzanine floor of a junkshop and cost $1.50—a lot of bed for the money, you must admit.

Next we bought an ancient round oak table—the kind that twenty-five years ago graced every decent citizen's dining room. We knew the man secretly thought he had robbed us at exactly $1 cash. For $3 we acquired a sound maple dresser with snug, smoothly sliding drawers. This particular dealer attached no great value to the piece because it lacked a mirror. We didn't want the mirror anyway, so we had a bargain.

Another nifty—the little man was not sure what it had ever been used for, and we weren't either—was added to our collection for $1.50. It must have been some sort of dining room commode, with high legs and a cupboard at each end with a fretwork grill between them.

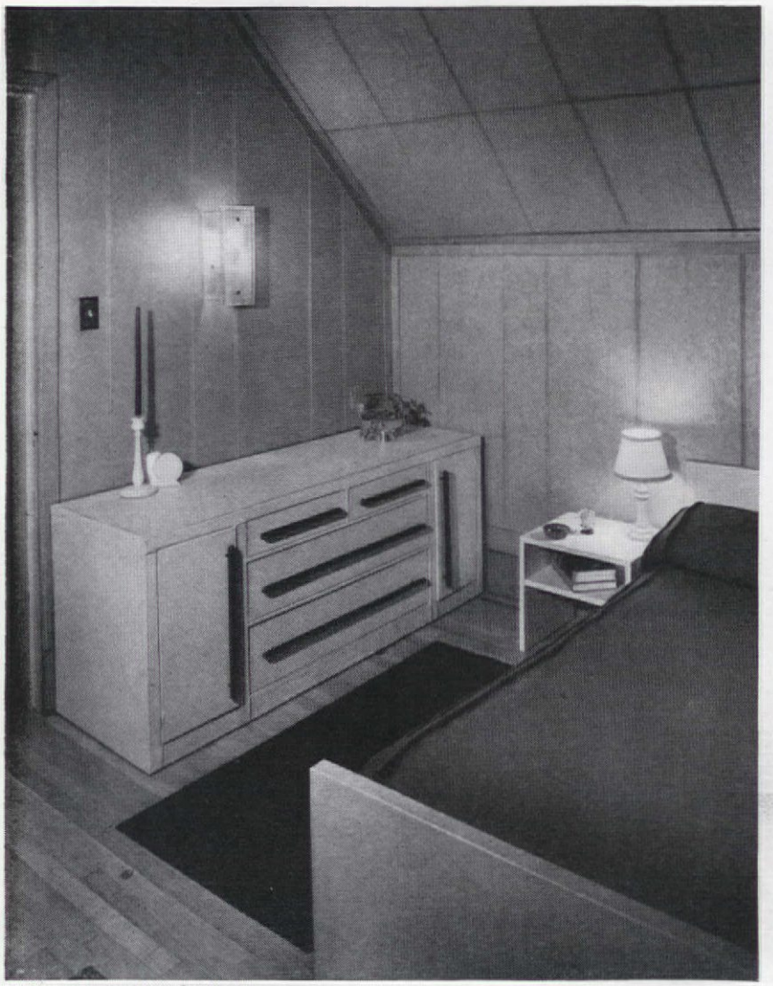
Followed two large mahogany panels, each 4'6" x 8', purchased from a wrecking yard. They might have been the sides of a commodious telephone booth, but they seemed to fit into our plan, so we parted with $5 for them.

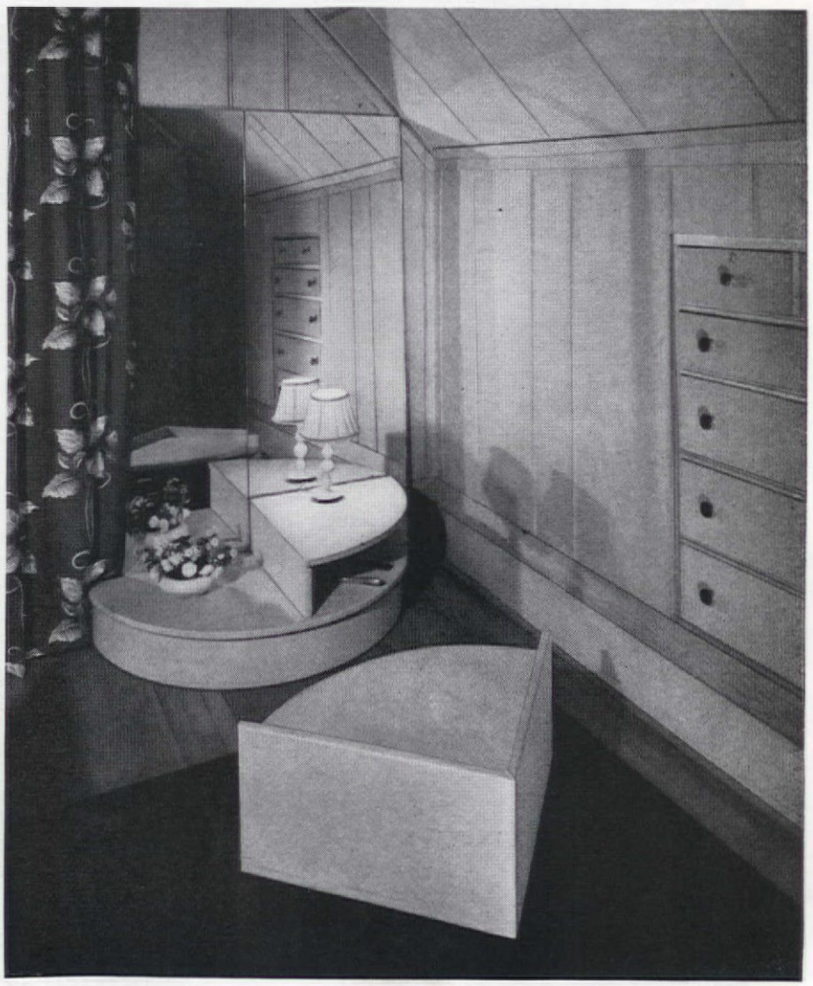
To keep down expenses to the minimum, we bought a 9'x15' green felt base living room rug for $12.50. This will become our rug pad when the broadloom we

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This is what we call having an eye for future possibilities: telephone booth shaped panels for a dining table; a maple dresser plus two boxes for a modern chest; an old round oak table for the most original semi-circular dressing table ever!

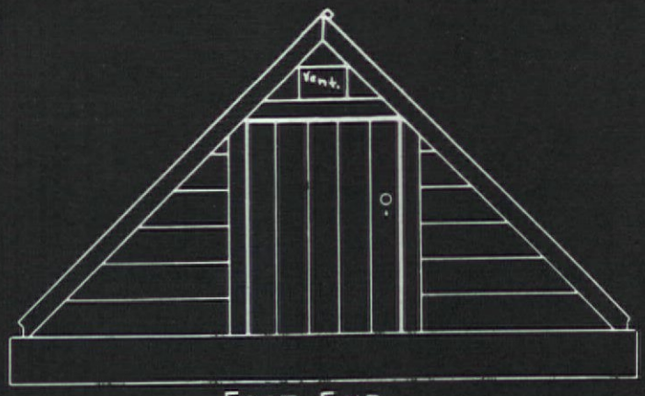




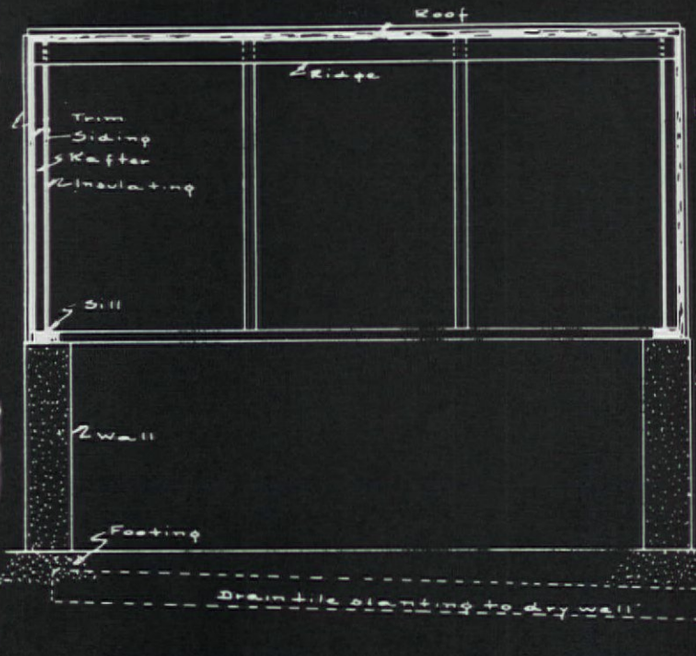
Photographs by Roger Sturtevant

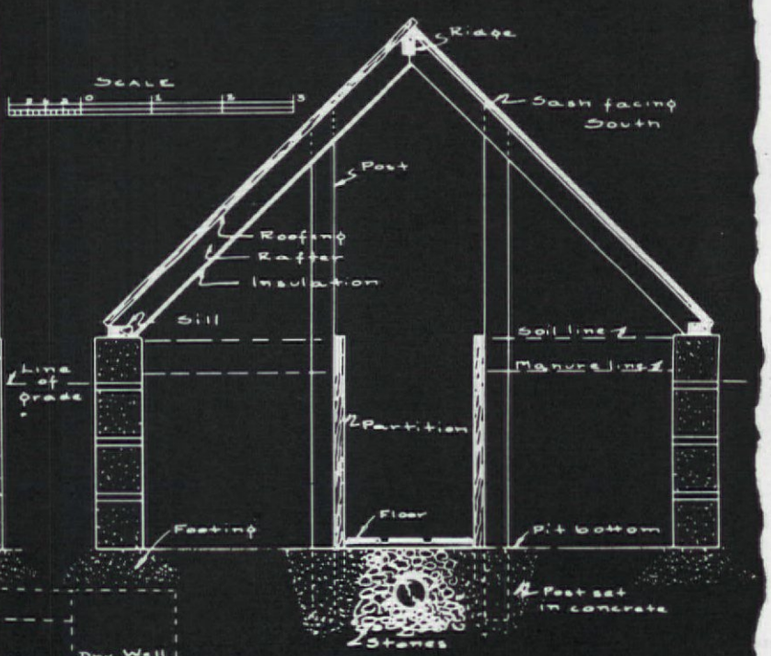


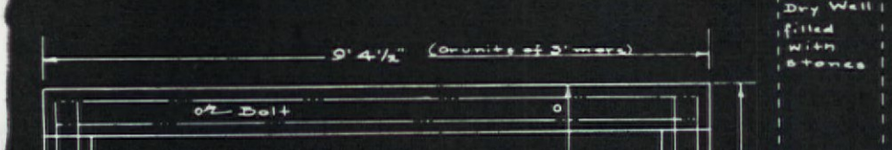
SOUTH SIDE



EAST END





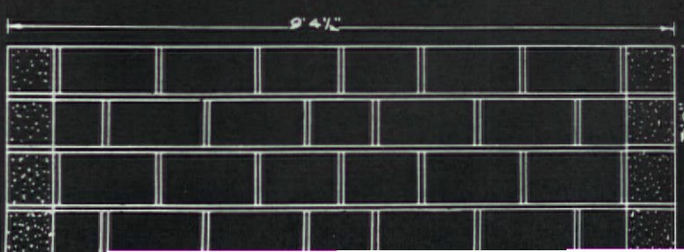


MATERIAL LIST

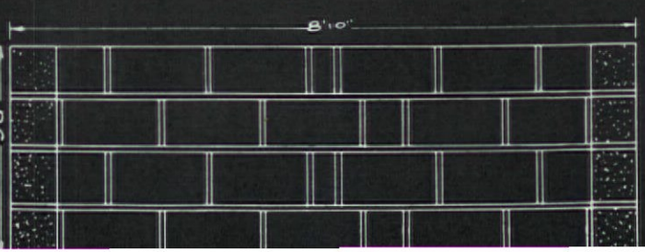
Item	Pcs	Size	Lgth	Remarks	
Tile		5"		To Suit	
Blocks	100	8"x8"x16"			12 00
Cement	5	2-cft		1 yd Sand	4 75
Lime	1	2 cft			1 20
Sills	4	2x4	10		1 87
Bolts	8	½"	10		65
Rafters	4	2x4	12		2 24
Ridge	1	2x4	10		94
Roofers	8	1x10	10		3 50
Roofing	1	Roll			1 65
Sash	3	3x6			0 81
Eaves	8	1x6	10	Novelty	4 40
Door	1	1x6	16	T+G	69
Studs	1	2x4	12		46
Posts Short	1	2x4	16		
Posts Long	2	2x4	14		1 50
Partition	3	2x8	16		5 50
Trim	4	1x3	12		1 32
Insulating	3	4x9			3 78
Paint	1	6 gallon			2 39
Hardware	Hinges, Latch nails				45
Steps	1	1x6	6		50
Shelves	1	1x6	6		50
Flooring	2	1x6	12		88
Labor and Freight					3 50
				Total	$ 94.98

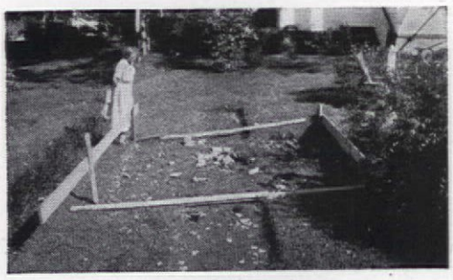
FOUNDATION

SIDE WALLS



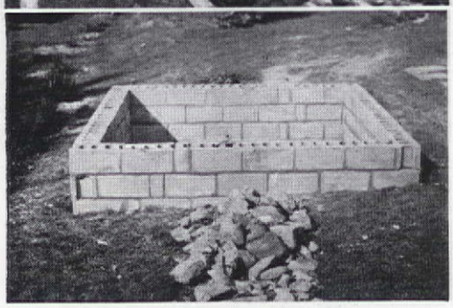
END WALLS



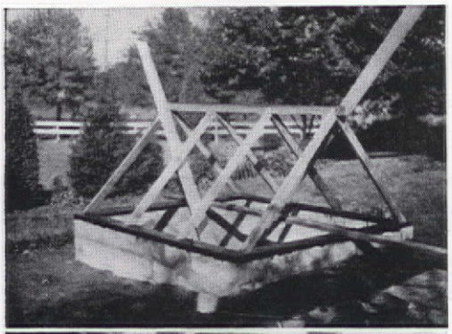


Nothing difficult or expensive about building this greenhouse. First, we staked out and dug the 9 ft. 4 in. by 8 ft. 10 in. excavation—three feet deep it was. . .



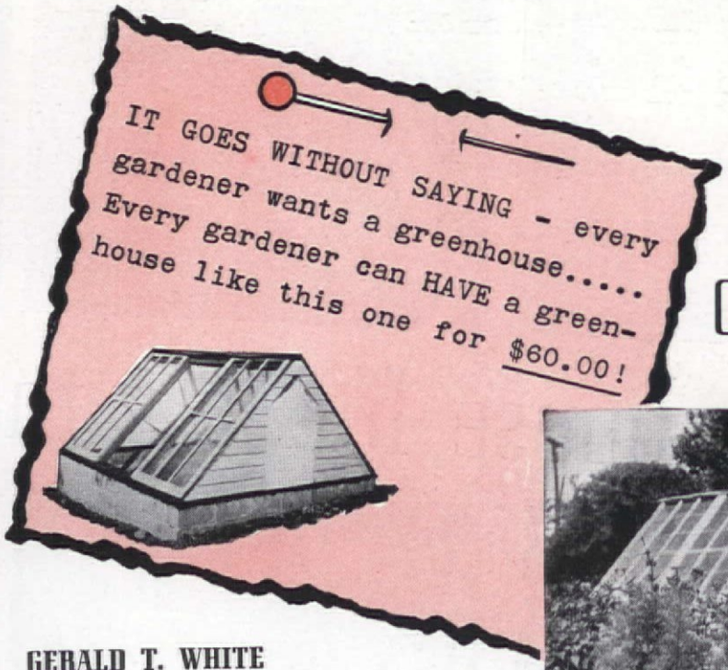


Then professional labor leveled the floor, poured the footings and laid the hollow tile foundation—all in one day. On this we bolted sills and erected rafters for an even-span roof as shown below. . .





The north side of the roof was boarded up except for the central window space, as shown here. The south side consists of three standard 3 by 6 ft. hotbed sash (see above, right). The door, steps, and one ventilator are at the east end



$60 Greenhouse!

GERALD T. WHITE

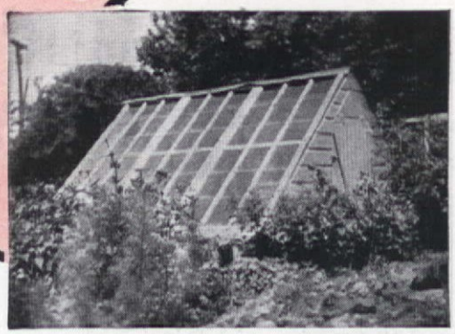
IT GOES without saying that every sincere garden lover wants a greenhouse, whether to grow flowers at all seasons of the year or primarily to raise seedlings for spring transplanting. For the former purpose it must be kept at the right temperature and humidity by some automatic means which may cost more in time and money than many can afford. But if the greenhouse is to be used as a seedling nursery and a place where tender plants can be safely wintered over, the problem is simplified. True, much of this work can be handled in a hotbed or a coldframe, but both are brutally inconvenient, far from attractive, and difficult to fit into the garden picture.

As a combined greenhouse, hotbed and coldframe, an attractive structure, and one in which you can work regardless of the weather and without kneeling or stooping for hours at a time, I think the greenhouse described here comes close to the ideal. During almost a full year's use it has never failed to do exactly what we planned for it; hardly a day has gone by without some of us using its facilities to keep some part of our gardens in continuous bloom.

As the photographs and drawing show, the structure is a simple peak roof set on a concrete block foundation. The south side of the roof consists of three standard 3 by 6 ft. hotbed sash. The other side is of boards covered with green roll roofing over which there is now being trained a mass of honeysuckle. Most of the pictures show the house before the surrounding planting had grown up. In September of the first year the sides and the north roof were nearly hidden by honeysuckle, giant zinnias, salvia, chrysanthemums, and rudbeckia. By the second summer the entire building, barring the door and the sash side, should be virtually buried under a mass of bloom.

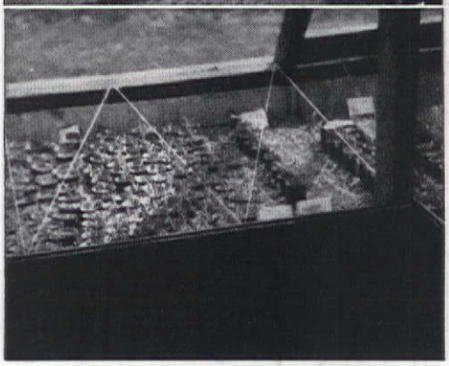
What has the greenhouse done for us in less than twelve months? During the winter it sheltered root cuttings of roses and several varieties of shrubs; in February we raised from seed about 6,000 annuals which were reduced to about 2,500 in late March when we pricked them out and transplanted them into individual paper pots. (Next year we'll do without the pots, moving direct from

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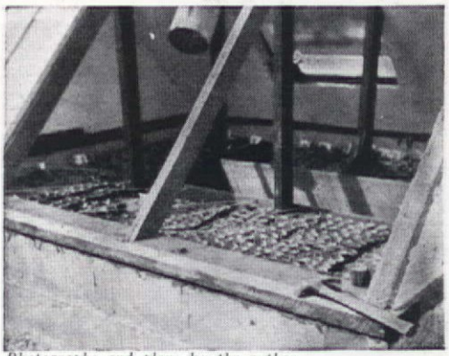


A southeast view of the finished house

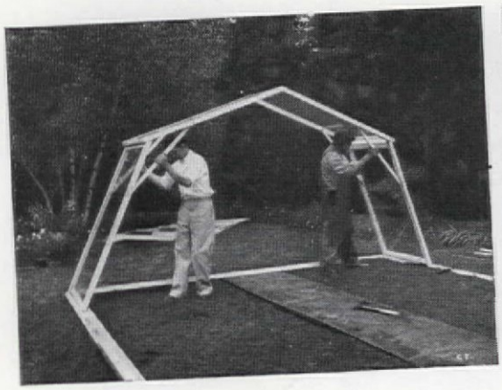




Three views of the interior arrangement. Newspapers spread on the strings shaded the plants on very sunny days and held the warmth in the benches on bitter nights



Photographs and plans by the author







A greenhouse for less than $100?

It's NEWS! A greenhouse you can buy in "installments" a buy-as-you-can-afford idea, and you erect it yourself . . .



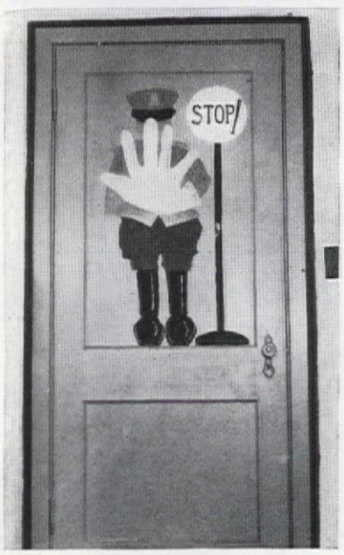


Photographs, courtesy of Lord and Burnham

THERE is, of course, a special thrill to be had from building your own greenhouse, lock, stock, and barrel, as it were. But lack of ability or inclination to do so is nothing to be ashamed of, especially in view of the new convenient, simple-to-erect, knocked down structure that has been devised by our garden-conscious English cousins and is now offered by one of the large American greenhouse firms as the Orlyt Glass Garden. The four views at top and far right show how easily the quickly assembled sections are set up and bolted together on the wooden foundation plate, to form, in this case, a five-section house 13 ft. long, 13 ft. wide and 6½ ft. high with sliding doors in each of the gable ends. Directly above is shown a four-section house attached to a garage, an arrangement that eliminates one end and makes it possible to use heat from the larger building to warm the greenhouse

Even the smallest size available—two sections (or 5 ft. 3 in.) long and costing only $89.50 complete—provides a glorified cold-frame or hotbed (in which you can work standing up); or a sheltered passage between the house and any outbuilding; or an inexpensive sunroom for the family to bask in; or a patch of sun-warmed ground with which the growing season can be lengthened generously at each end. If you want to excavate and build a foundation, this makes a perfect superstructure for such a greenhouse as W. L. Farmer described in his story in the September AMERICAN HOME ("Blooms in Spite of Blizzards"). If steam or hotwater heat cannot be "borrowed" from the house system, an Orlyt glassed-in garden can be kept warm all winter in several inexpensive ways: In natural gas country an efficient heater can be had for as little as $10, while about five times that amount will provide a compact, modern oil burner. An ordinary kerosene heater or two will carry tender plants over brief periods of slightly below freezing weather.

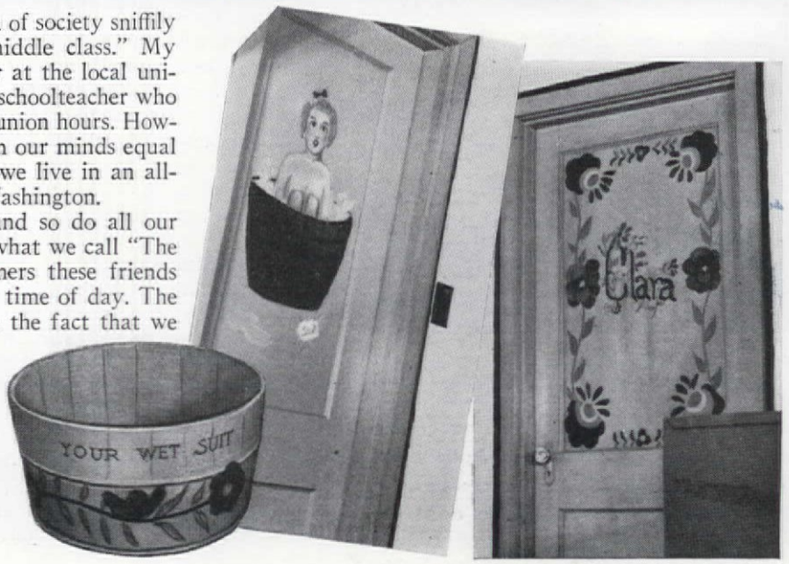
NOR WOULD THE UNUSUAL REQUEST



WE BELONG to that strata of society sniffily referred to as "the middle class." My husband is a professor at the local university and I am an ordinary schoolteacher who supervises her household after union hours. However, we do have one luxury, in our minds equal to anything anyone else has—we live in an all-year-'round house on Lake Washington.

My family like to swim—and so do all our friends. They have organized what we call "The Beach Club." For three summers these friends came every sunny day, at any time of day. The only inconvenience arose from the fact that we had no really satisfactory dressing room. Confidentially, our system of getting dressed was something like this:

After our swim and sun bath on the lower lawn (the



FOR A CELLAR CABANA "STUMP" US





My husband used ordinary plywood for the partition between what was to become the reduced storeroom and what was to be transformed into our dressing room for bathers. He also used plywood on two of the other walls, leaving the fourth as it was, plastered.

The next step was decoration. Tired of the usual nautical motifs of ships and anchors, we turned for suggestions to various magazines. In one issue of THE AMERICAN HOME we found an article on "Swedish Modern in the U. S. A." *There* was an idea—simplicity, color, and usefulness. Just what we wanted. So why not let the new dressing room go Swedish? Enthusiastically we got to work. I had clipped pictures from both articles and advertisements in old copies of magazines, and with these as guides we made our plans. The walls and ceiling, a strong Swedish yellow. Two imitation beams of blue and red on the ceiling. A perky red scalloping (cut at the near-by lumber mill) for decoration at a gaping ceiling-wall line.



At this point, some of the "club members" began to drop in to sign up for the season, as it were. They were full of suggestions, of course. Why not? After all, it was to be their room. Good-naturedly we listened to their comments and

[*Please turn to page 105*]





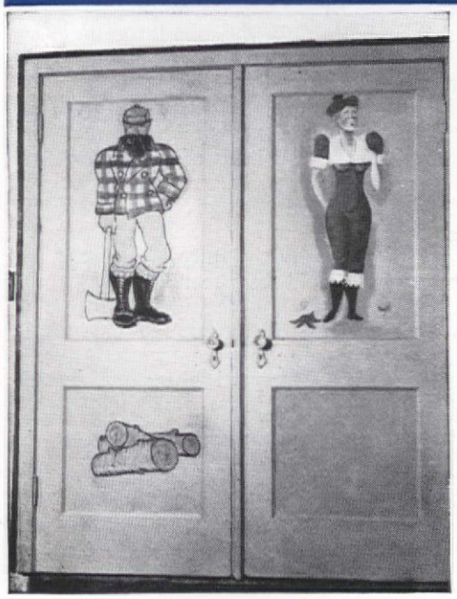
Who'd ever guess this used to be an ordinary basement storeroom? Gay decorations made it a cabana

WILLA PRAY TYLER

house is built on a slight rise above the lake) the ladies in the party would take their privilege of first turn at dressing. They would saunter up to the porch facing the lake and, by means of pre-arranged signals to insure privacy, furtively and nervously drop their suits on the cement floor of the porch. Then, properly be-toweled, they would scamper into the adjoining room. Now this room happened to be my husband's study, and remember he's a schoolteacher who loves order! Moreover, even with drawn curtains there was always the danger of some man demanding his clothes. This poor sense of timing frequently resulted in embarrassment. Some of the sedate older generation insisted on going up through the house to the comfort of a bedroom—forgetting that wet suits *will* drip all over the place.

These were minor disturbances, but they worried me. So last spring my husband and I decided to build ourselves an honest-to-goodness dressing room where our friends could dress in privacy and comfort, and which would leave the rest of the house in that neatness we so cherish.

Our house, being built on a hillside, has the lower level toward the lake. This floor contains, in addition to the study, a large central room with laundry trays and oil-burner. Off it are seven doors leading respectively to the hallway, jam closet, two to the storeroom, maid's room, bathroom, and an exit. The storeroom offered possibilities. With the two adjacent doors opening from the basement and a window at one end, it was easy to divide it into separate rooms.





- because here before your eyes is a cellar bath-dressing room. You'll see more luxurious ones but few that consort so gayly with washtubs, so easily with cellar storage spaces . . .

You May Have to Get "Fighting Mad"



Photographs by Waters & Hamlin Studios

- Mrs. Woodbury did - but she built this lovely garden on the side of Twin Peaks as a result - where the slope is 60°!

HELEN BELL GRADY

PERHAPS it will surprise you to know that even the steepest hillside can be turned into a beautiful garden if only you have the patience, strength and determination to carry it through. Even if you have to get fighting mad to put your ideas into practice and overrule the objections of your detractors who say it just can't be done, it's worth it, as Mrs. T. D. Woodbury of San Francisco has proved. "Whoever heard of making a garden on the side of Twin Peaks where the incline is at least 60 degrees?" people queried. At first Mrs. Woodbury tried to argue, but when everyone kept on throwing cold water on her idea, she just let them talk. Finally she got mad and that led to the actual work of making the garden herself—with her very own hands.

Building rock walls wasn't particularly easy, especially with the hill so steep and the rock so heavy; but she wanted to show them it could be done. She built the walls first, then put in her steps, and finally planted her terraces and her courtyard. Now her garden is the envy of pretty nearly everyone who sees it.

Her conception of a house and garden had always been that they should form a single unit. So, in planning her house she had the architect put as many windows across the back as possible in order to bring the garden inside. The result is that from practically every room in the house there is a view of the secluded garden, and a complete panorama is possible from the large view window in the living room. Even from the halls and stairways there are glimpses of the out-of-doors which thus becomes a part of the house.

The garden is entered by way of a covered patio that leads from the main hall. Stepping stones mark the path along the patio to the terraced hillside and provide a walk through the moss which covers the courtyard area.

Her interesting garden plan should offer suggestions to others desirous of landscaping steep downhill lots. The idea was to break up the steep effect that a bank gives when you look at it from below by placing a series of terraces horizontally the full width of the plot. Lest these should seem monotonous, she decided to cut up the hillside still further by building an irregular stairway up the middle. The flat space at the foot of the terraces was to be made into a courtyard with a pool in the corner nearest the steps and massed planting at the back and sides of the garden was to give privacy.

Having made gardening a hobby and being a member of the California Horticultural Society, she was able to achieve the effect of a natural woodland setting through her choice

Knute, the Woodbury's Llewellyn setter, looks down from the first terrace on the hillside onto the pool, an outstanding feature of the garden because of the manner in which the planting around it was handled

of plant material. At the back of the terraces and for the outside walls, she has used cotoneasters, conifers, rhododendrons, and azaleas. On the high fence which shuts off the garden at the left, honeysuckle grows in rank profusion. Massed against the house and interspersed in the planting is her collection of fuchsias, including the prized variety Rolla and many of the better known sorts. Flower beds at the front of her terraces where they can be seen to advantage from the house contain annuals and perennials for color, including Peruvian lilies, Russell lupines, snapdragons, marigolds, umbellatum lilies, and perennial phlox. The high point of her landscaping achievement is the lovely pool. The planting about it is so skillfully done that it seems to be a bit of forest beauty dropped into the midst of a city lot.

Because the house is Spanish with a red tile roof and a balcony reminiscent of the early California houses, Mrs. Woodbury decided that her garden should have a Spanish touch, too. Every patio in the houses built by the dons had at least one banana tree, so there is one in the sunniest corner of this garden to the right of the large living room window. Pots of geraniums are used in the courtyard to give color; edging the view window is Burmese honeysuckle on the left and barberry at the right, and in front of the window is a bed filled with pink and red begonias and bordered with blue lobelia. In the covered patio leading to the house cinerarias provide a mass of brilliant bloom against the tan stucco walls of the house. On the small porch just outside the glass house door is a collection of shade-tolerant plants in pots, so that the garden seems to extend to the very threshold.

In short, Mrs. Woodbury's is an "I told you so" garden. When they said "it couldn't be done," she decided to build a garden that would speak for itself. It does.

BOOK NOTE: Of course, not everyone with an interesting opportunity like Mrs. Woodbury's to develop can hope to know the best plants to use, as she did, or to enjoy the inspiration and help of membership in a big horticultural organization. But there is much practical assistance to be had from books; and, for gardeners along the Pacific Coast especially, two admirable new ones are now available. One is "Conspicuous California Plants" by Ralph D. Cornell, of Los Angeles. A well-known landscape architect, he is also an enthusiastic student of plants in the wild, with a keen eye for the beautiful, and ability to photograph it—and his versatile skill is evident in both text and pictures of his handsome volume. The other book is "Flowering Shrubs of California" with emphasis on their value for the gardener, by Lester Rowntree. Here that remarkable "lone hunter" of flowers and plants adds to her already generous contributions to horticultural literature. Again the reader enjoys the thrill of accompanying her on her cross-country hikes and seeing nature through her sharp eyes, while gaining, delightfully, a knowledge of plant materials, how they grow, and how they can be used to best advantage and fully enjoyed.





"Does a cellar recreation room pay its way?" Ordinarily, we'd say NO!



But this one will, not because we did it, but because we know why most of them aren't used after the novelty wears off. Read our story! . . . . . .

SEVERAL months ago we received a letter, asking us to furnish and decorate a cellar recreation room. It came from the manufacturer of Celotex, and while we are asked to, and do, a great many decorating jobs for manufacturers and merchants all over the country, this one was different because they asked us to do a cellar room. Now we have never much believed in cellar recreation rooms. Many were clever, but few were used. It had been our observation that most of them simply did not "pay their way."

We have known so many families who spent quite a little money "fixing up" their cellar recreation rooms, were all enthusiasm until after the "house warming" at which they introduced their friends to their new room, and after a few months practically never used it.

However, one living room in a small house has many inconveniences, and once the children reach the strenuous age, one living room takes a dreadful "beating" when it must serve as study hall, parlor, and dance floor. The cellar recreation room is, of course, the solution, but not as it is ordinarily done. A bar and a Ping-pong table hardly justify the cost of finishing up the cellar, yet all over the country money has been spent for no more fundamental reasons than just these—a bar and a Ping-pong table!

We decided we'd been given our chance actually to work out our "cellar theories." Could we do a room that would pay its way?

In our reply of acceptance we said to the manufacturer, "We have in mind a recreation room which is definitely a family affair, to include provision for children as well as for adults. We think it should provide facilities for games from bridge to Ping-pong, for dancing, for such hobbies as photography, for storage of outdoor play equipment such as tennis racquets, croquet sets, etc. and be a place not only for the entertainment of grown-ups of an evening, but for the children of the house on a rainy day. Uses of this kind, it seems to us, are the only justification for a recreation room, and therefore we are not taking the floor plan you submitted and merely filling the area with furniture, which would make it simply a second living room. Instead, we are recommending a good many novel built-in features which will answer the requirements we have set for

this cellar room, as they are listed above."

This, we felt, merely made sense, and we were more than discouraged a few days later when a letter came back from the manufacturer saying "I would like nothing better than to agree to the scheme you have in mind about built-in furniture, blackboard, etc., but as you outline it, it would conceal the greatest portion of our wall finish. The up-shot of it is that we will have to plan on using standard furniture selected with coverings suitable for use in the decorative color scheme."

So-o-o, they wanted another one of those cheerless cellar rooms, filled with a lot of furniture but completely empty of ideas!

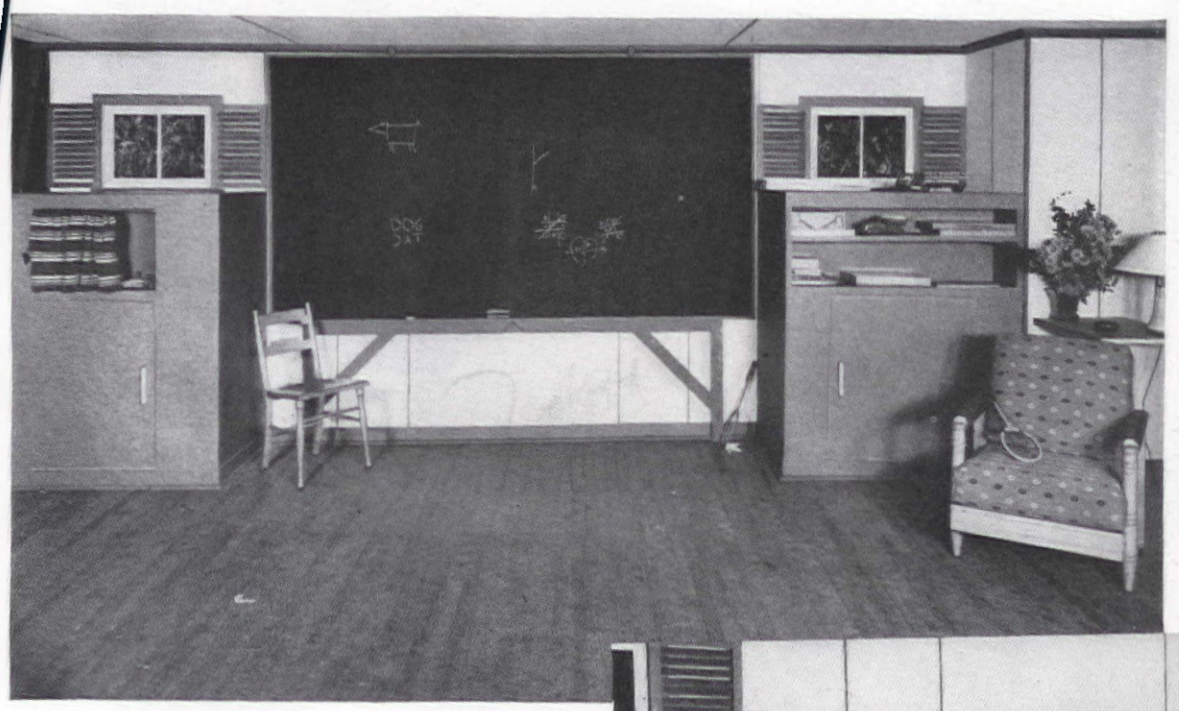
Once again we took our pen in hand. "Ping-pong tables and assorted furniture in a basement room is hardly news," we said, "and while it can be pleasant, we may as well go on record and tell you that (1) THE AMERICAN HOME does not believe in model rooms as such, believing the public is tired of 'assembly jobs' with no ideas behind them and (2) THE AMERICAN HOME has never believed in the expense of finishing off a cellar as an ordinary recreation room. It is not theory. We *know* they are not used enough to justify the expense, and in doing this room for you, we believed we had a real idea for justifying the expense of finishing off a cellar so elaborately. We believed that in making it a playroom for rainy days, a game room with a puppet show and movies and a snack bar, we were creating an extra room, so often needed in a family of mixed ages. That, it seemed to us, would make sense—."

We don't think it was eloquence, but our common-sense plea that hit the mark, and finally we were permitted to carry out our ideas, which you now see in the illustrations on these two pages.

The room designed by the firm's architects was a square room of average size, with one corner bowed out to allow for the heating plant on the other side of the wall, several typical cellar windows and, of course, good safe cellar stairs, with a hand rail. Walls and ceiling are covered with Celotex Key Joint Unit in varying widths, left in its pleasant natural finish, and the trim is of Hard Board in an excellent warm walnut color. Lights are set flush with the ceiling so as not to interfere when Ping-pong is being played. The cement floor is painted green with a paint developed especially for this particular type of floor.



$100 will buy the material for walls and ceiling in this room and pay the cost of installation. This estimate, quoted in Chicago area, may vary slightly elsewhere



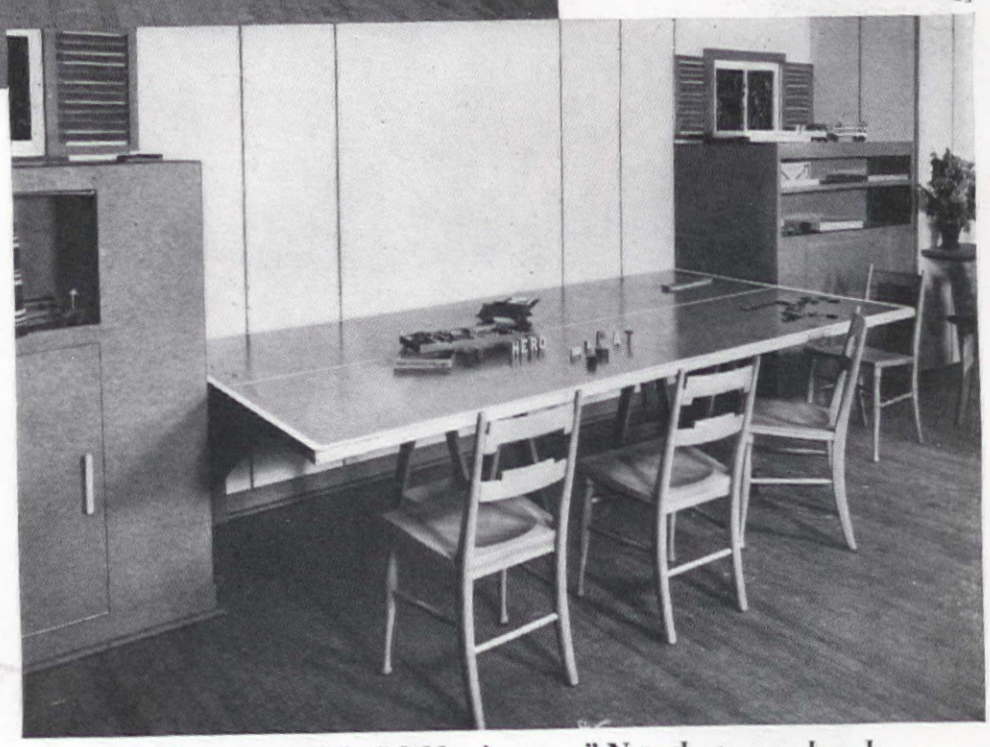
We felt that one of the essentials in a room of this sort was a place to prepare and serve refreshments. After an evening of fun one always wants to offer coffee and toasted cheese sandwiches, or waffles, or something of the sort, to one's guests, and it's just too messy and inconvenient to carry trays of refreshments down from the kitchen to the cellar. So we designed a "counter" or "snack bar," about 30" high, with room behind it for a person to stand. Back of this is a narrow shelf, the same height as the counter, with a plug-in strip along the back, which makes it possible to plug in an electric percolator, waffle iron, and toaster at the same time. Over this we put a single shelf for plates and cups and saucers. Under the counter there is storage space for food supplies, extra china, linen, silver, and any other things which are needed for the informal serving of refreshments.

In reality it's a compact little kitchenette-dinette where food can be prepared and served to the grown-ups after their game of bridge, or to the children when Mother is giving a dinner party upstairs and wants to keep them out of the dining room. It's also a grand spot for having a children's party, or for serving their meals when appetites need whetting after a long spell of rainy weather has made the indoors and ordinary routine seem boring.

Against another wall a seat was built, with drawers underneath for storing games, cards, and such small items, and at either end, built-in cupboards for larger equipment such as a moving picture projector, tennis racquets, roller and ice skates, and other bulky sports articles and hobby equipment.

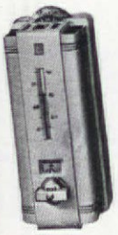
Across the room from this is the children's special corner. There is a cupboard with open shelves for frequently used games and toys and a large closed section for bulky things. Balancing it on the other end is a

[*Please turn to page 102*]



Two views of the "children's corner." Note the two cupboards, one for the little puppet theater, the other for storage. The blackboard-Ping-pong and general play table is shown folded up against the wall and let down for a play or work surface

Since we're knee-deep in problem children, and since we're insisting there's a solution for every problem, let's talk HEATING, now, while this winter's little * * * * * is fresh in your mind! . . . .



Minneapolis Honeywell



Automatic Products

The 5



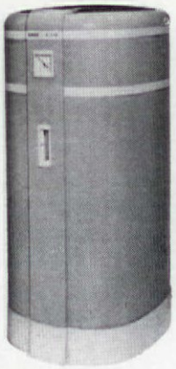
Crane

W. B. COOPER

IN THE past the "furnace man" was considered a lowly individual who didn't mind the dirty work of repairing a furnace. Many of these men had little or no investment in equipment and their living was governed by the number of jobs they could get installing and repairing furnaces during summer months. Installing a furnace wasn't considered a difficult job. It was a matter of getting a furnace big enough for the house and setting it up in the basement, putting a register in each room and a conspicuous return air inlet in some corner, and the job was ready for firing.

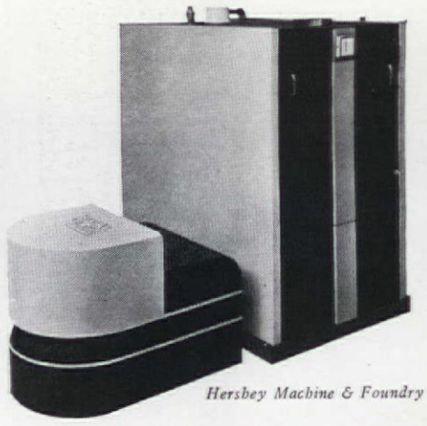
But with the advent of AIR CONDITIONING the picture changed entirely. A more skillful mechanic was required to install the new and frequently elaborate equipment. Not only heating but air cleaning, air cooling, air humidification, and air circulation became available for the home. A new type of heating man then came into existence—a qualified man, an air conditioning engineer.

Air conditioning spread like magic and a "gold rush" was on to satisfy the consumer demand for it. As a result of this gold rush many "furnace men" were calling themselves "heating engineers" and installing air conditioning without proper training. But the pendulum swung too far, everything was called Air Conditioning, and many installations were made which had to be corrected later. The result had a tendency to make the buying public skeptical of the whole air conditioning field. But the result has been very beneficial to the heating industry. It has raised the quality of manufacturers' products, raised the quality of heating equipment installations, perfected the design of average home heating systems and brought about much sound research. Today winter air conditioning is well established and there is no mystery about it. It depends on five principal factors: 1. Fuel, 2. Furnace Construction, 3. Controls, 4. Type of Installation, 5. Installation Price and Operating Cost.





General Electric



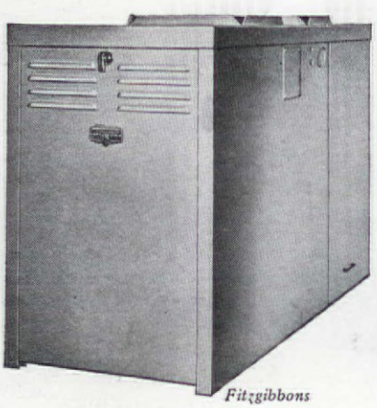
Hersbey Machine & Foundry

1. **FUEL:** Selecting the fuel for your heating equipment is comparatively simple. There are only three types: gas, oil, and coal. With each of them, heat is obtained by combustion of the fuel. The operating efficiency of each is determined by the heat capacity of the fuel as well as the construction of the heating equipment in which it is used. Today heating equipment has been especially designed to burn each type of fuel most effectively. So, if you're considering a new heating unit, ask if it has been especially designed for the type of fuel you want to use in it. Beware of the manufacturer selling the same type of equipment for a variety of fuels.

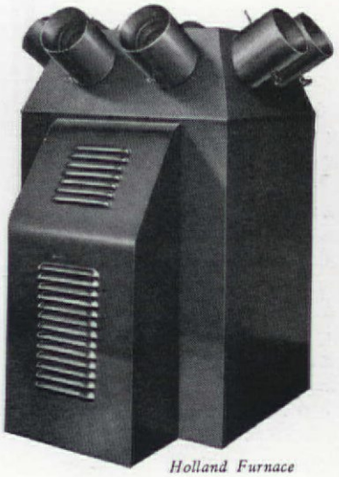
An important factor in deciding on a fuel is its cost in your community. For example, there are certain communities where natural gas with a high heating value is available cheap because it is at hand and does not need to be manufactured. Artificial gas has a lower heating content and generally runs higher in price. Various mixtures of manufactured and natural gas are also available and some public utilities have succeeded in reducing the price of gas where it is normally expensive in order to encourage its use as fuel. There are various grades of oil, numbered from one to five. Many domestic burners use No. 3 oil, some No. 2 oil and certain burners No. 5. Generally, No. 5 oil is the cheapest and No. 1 is the most expensive. You should stick to the quality of oil for which your burner was designed. In many localities the cost of fuel oil is quite reasonable in comparison to the cost of gas or coal. Most everyone is familiar



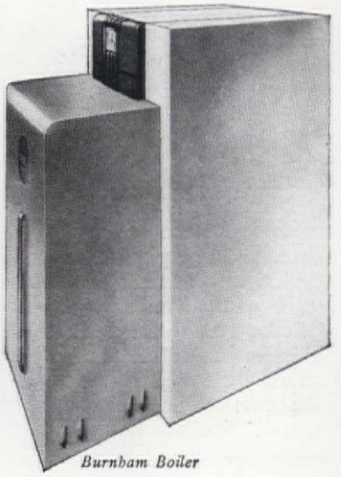
Iron Fireman



Fitzgibbons



Holland Furnace



Burnham Boiler

* * * * * *Use your own vocabulary, we can't mail ours!*

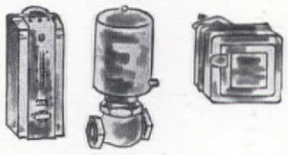
Cardinal Points are:

I. Fuel



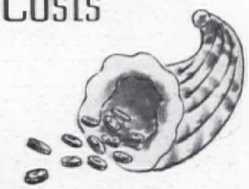
II. Furnace Construction

III. Controls



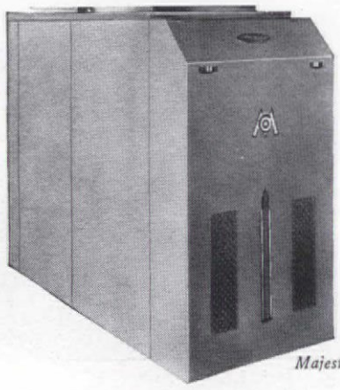
IV. Type of Installation

V. Installation Price & Operating Costs



with the fact that there are various grades of coal and they too bring differing prices. You can buy anthracite or hard coal, bituminous or soft coal; the size of the lump, the amount of ash content, the heating value, all influence the price charged as well as the worth of the material. Locality is a factor too, for example, in the soft coal region in Western Pennsylvania soft coal is naturally cheaper than in other parts of the country.

Automatic Fueling: If a person wants automatic heat, he wants to know just how automatic the equipment he is buying really is. None of them is completely automatic; even with gas equipment you have to turn on the gas in the fall and turn it off in the spring. Gas is the nearest approach to absolutely automatic heat, provided the unit is designed with automatic perfection in mind. Oil is not quite as automatic because it is necessary for the resident to keep his tanks filled with oil, which you should agree isn't a very strenuous activity, especially when most of the oil companies will assume this responsibility for the owner. With automatic coal equipment, stoker coal must be kept on hand. If a bin feed stoker is used, no firing is necessary but if the usual hopper is used, it must be filled on the average of once daily. Also, there must be some arrangement for the removal of the ash or clinker. On some units the removal of the clinker is a very simple operation. Usually with coal there is a little more tendency to dirt in the basement, but this can be controlled with proper attention.

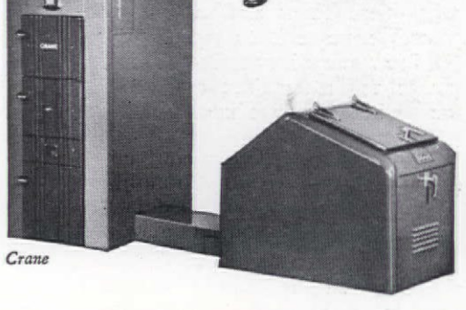


Majestic

Another thing to consider in automatic fueling is the service problem. At one time or other, you may require service on any piece of automatic heating equipment. With gas burners in general you won't require any more service than you have with your ordinary gas kitchen stove. With oil burners in general you won't require any more attention than you do in caring for the engine of your automobile, but as you know, this engine should be cleaned occasionally and adjusted and checked to see that it is working efficiently. In an emergency, night or day, you will want a service man available if the oil unit should fail. It is important for all types of automatic fueling that you have a skilled mechanic check over the whole heating system at least once a year, especially in the fall when the heating equipment is turned on and started in operation. With stokers difficulty may arise if a large lump, which cannot be broken up, clogs the coal being fed to the furnace. Oil burners may also clog if dirty oil is poured into the burners. Many dealers selling stokers and oil burners have a service contract, sold at the same time as the equipment, which guarantees free service for a certain length of time, with a service man available twenty-four hours a day.

2. FURNACE CONSTRUCTION: But for efficient heating, safety, distribution of heat, elimination of fuel odors and other factors you depend on the construction of your whole heating system not just on the fuel or fueling apparatus. Today a winter air conditioning system for heating the house by warm air can have five principal parts; the furnace unit itself, the blower fan, the humidifiers, the filters, and the controls. The unit does the *heating*, the blower fan controls the *movement* of air, the humidifier supplies *moisture* to the air, the filters *clean* the air, and the controls *regulate* the quantity of heat and air.

The Unit: The efficiency with which a furnace unit operates is a measure of just how good its construction is. The fuel fed to any unit has a certain heat content. If the heat actually reaching the rooms is a high percentage of the heat content put in the unit, the unit is efficient. Any one selecting heating equipment should insist upon some proof of operating efficiency under normal conditions at least. Be warned though that the attractiveness of [*Please turn to page 89*]



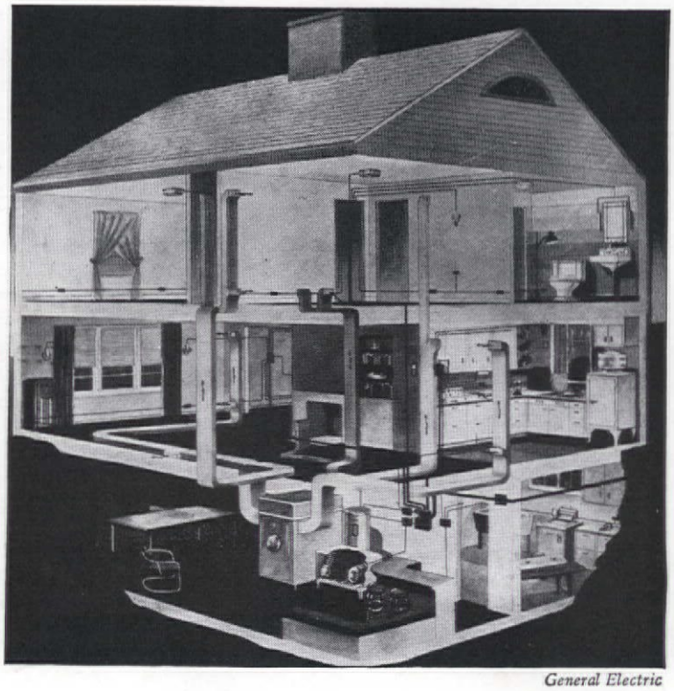
Crane



Spencer Heater



Mueller



General Electric

It needn't look like Siamese twins—



There's no reason why two-family houses can't stack up against single homes and be designed with variety and ingenuity; their practical worth and economic soundness can be matched by good design



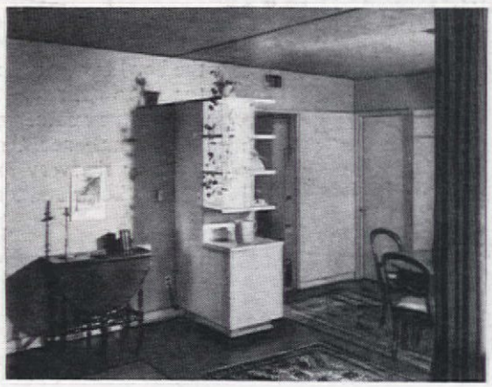
SIAMESE twins are all right at the circus but who would want to look at them every day. Think of the Siamese twin houses you see at every turn, though. Two front doors side by side exactly alike, front windows identical in size and shape, every detail the same throughout the two dwellings. Why? It's certainly possible to vary the design of a double house so that it has some individual character. Heaven knows the average home owner is eager for individuality in his home. He wants it to have some distinguishing features from the adjoining house and to express his own tastes and ideas. It may be only in a different bay window or in the front planting but it's a token of the individualism which is part of our American character. So we believe that architects and builders should think more seriously of two-family houses and give definite variety to their design and plan. It is a type of house increasing in vogue and it fits right into the present economic picture because a double or multi-family house can be an income producer as well as a home.

This two-family house in Ann Arbor, Michigan, is a fine achievement. It looks like a generous single house but the first floor is one home, the upper floor another. Each section is independent, and the rooms on both floors are exceptionally large, bright, and useful. The lower floor is occupied by the

In Ann Arbor, Mich.

Walls and ceiling of the first floor living room are contrasting white, cocoa, and apricot color. Glass blocks and corner windows brighten it too







architect and his family, while Mrs. Albert E. Greene, the owner of the building, lives upstairs in complete privacy but with the comforting knowledge that she isn't alone in the house, has someone near at hand. Lower front hall and side service hall are shared and the same modern front entrance doorway serves both homes; but from that point on the two floors are entirely separate. The stairway bisects the upstairs living room, a room fifty-two feet long carried right across the front of the house. Half of it is like an outdoor room, almost completely glazed on two sides and opening onto a deck over the front of the garage. A gray-green cement floor and gay, light furnishings make it such a cheerful place that the owner used it as living and sleeping quarters all last summer, charmed with the open view of treetops, sky, and neighborhood. In the other half of the living room she used older furniture with complete success and a favorite color scheme of rose, blue, and green against the modern architectural background.

The first floor rooms have generous glass areas too, which make each room seem double its actual size. Large casement sash with single panes and glass block panels spread along whole walls of living room, bedrooms, and kitchen. One end of the dining room is made up of folding glass doors which open upon the garden, making it literally a part of the house in summertime. Oh, there are screens, of course, but the effect is like eating in the

[*Please turn to page 92*]

even though it is a two-family house!

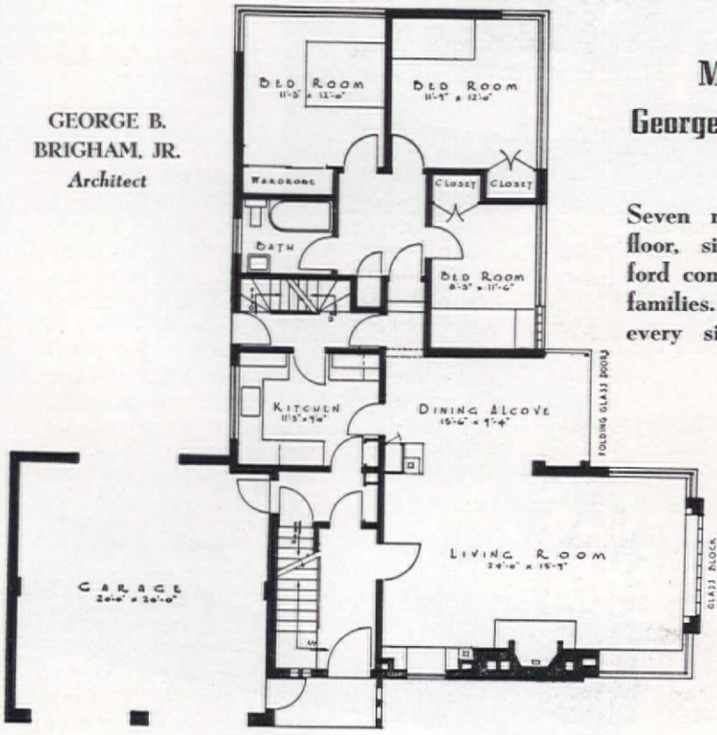
Home of Mrs. Albert E. Greene

and

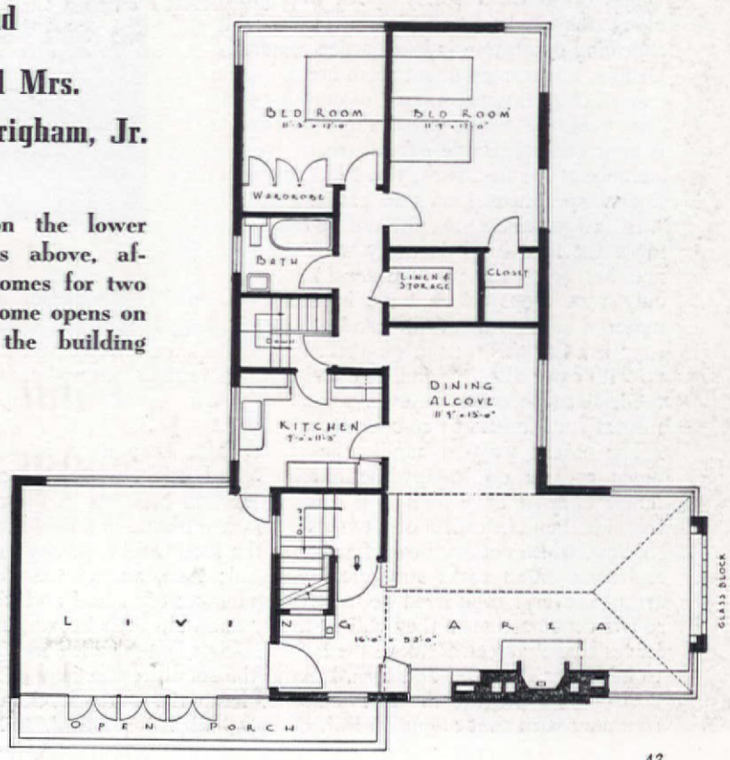
Mr. and Mrs. George B. Brigham, Jr.

GEORGE B. BRIGHAM, JR.
Architect

Seven rooms on the lower floor, six rooms above, afford complete homes for two families. Each home opens on every side of the building



• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •



• SECOND FLOOR PLAN •

If flowers aren't in your budget...

—how about VEGETABLES to fill that vacant spot in the window garden? Try some carrots, beets, onions, turnips, cabbage—yes, even the humble spinach . . .

GRACE IGO HALL



Robert Clark

Most of us don't need to be introduced to vegetables in their familiar, utilitarian role. But it may come as a surprise that many of them—the same humble plants that are given space in kitchen gardens—can be brought indoors, placed in attractive, appropriate containers on window ledges or in other sunny spots, and grown along for weeks at a time as thoroughly charming decorative indoor garden materials. Definite advantages about them are, first, the ease of obtaining them, and, second, the simplicity of the whole procedure. One source is your own vegetable garden where, well in advance of the first frost, you select vigorous, thrifty specimens that you can dig up, or "lift" as gardeners say, for use in the house. Since the idea is to do away with the mess and bother of soil, we are considering here only root crops which have in their swollen bases sufficient food material to keep them alive and growing so long as sufficient water is supplied. For this reason, good strong specimens are selected and taken up with care; also it is well to provide for more than you will actually need, since occasionally even a beet or a carrot will "go temperamental" and refuse to co-operate.

The easiest way to handle the plants is to keep them in water, much as you do Paperwhite narcissus and other winter-blooming flower bulbs. I have found the common garden beet one of the most individual and beautiful of all vegetables when placed in a fairly large, shallow, white pottery bowl. Partly fill the receptacle with clean sand and some small rocks strategically placed; then, among the stones, arrange several good sized beets after having cut off a half an inch or so from the bottom so they will sit firmly and hold their broad, ruffled leaves bravely erect. Remove the largest, oldest leaves which are likely to be rather draggled and torn, leaving the small, tender new ones to develop and provide the future effects. Keep the water level in the container such that about an inch of each bulb is uncovered, and put the bowl in a cool, half shady place for a few days to get the plants accustomed to their new surroundings. Add water as necessary, remembering that as the weather gets colder and the house is kept warmer, evaporation will be hastened. An occasional pinch of soluble plant food might help. I follow the very same procedure with onions except that I choose the smaller bulbs and leave the fibrous root systems intact so they can take up all the water needed. The slender grace of onion leaves (and of leeks, too) makes them especially suitable for use in tall receptacles which can be partly filled with sand and stones, leaving room for the bulbs above the sand level—which is the same as that of the water in which the feeding roots are immersed. Lacy, light green carrot foliage is especially effective in jade green pottery or glass, and these plants are just as easy to handle as those already



Clark's Studio



Clark's Studio

mentioned, although I have found it advisable (as my grandmother tells me she did) to select extra large roots and cut them off an inch and a half or two inches below the tops. Next to the carrots in my favorite window are several turnips—white and mauve, with delicate green leaves—looking truly pert and gay in a bright blue glazed dish. And beyond them, in a clear hyacinth glass is a happy-go-lucky sweet-potato vine with its striking, pointed leaves. This is, perhaps, the easiest of all vegetables to grow, requiring simply that it be placed in a container kept three fourths full of water into which it can thrust its long white roots; not more than an inch or so of the tuber itself should be in contact with the water as it may rot. Also, make sure that the ones you try to grow have not been subjected to a sulphuring process which, though it improves their keeping quality as vegetables, destroys their ability to grow again and contribute to your garden effect. You can enjoy even the lush, pale leafage of celery by growing plants of celeriac or turnip-rooted celery whose swollen crown provides both a broad, firm foundation and also a good suppply of nutriment for the tops. And the squat little kohl-rabi bulbs, whose leaves start from all around its middle instead of at the top, are also good to grow indoors and are quite unusual.

As already suggested, you can start such a foliage garden even if you don't have your own vegetable patch, for at the nearest grocer's or fruit and vegetable stand, when stocking up the kitchen, you can find suitable roots ready for indoor cultivation. Or, better still, if you know of a market gardener in the neighborhood, you can visit his place and select your plants as they grow, just as you can—and should, if possible—choose your roses and shrubbery right in the nursery row. As to care, little or none is required beyond keeping the water at the right level in the several containers and snipping off any leaves that become old, dull, spotted or otherwise unattractive. Of course vegetables are subject to insect attacks, and you may occasionally find evidence of aphids or other enemies—which, after all, makes this kind of garden no different from any other collection of plants grown indoors. But a little attention and simple spraying (perhaps frequent syringing with clear water will be sufficient) will take care of that, and in return you can count on color, texture, and all-round cheerfulness and beauty that, I feel sure, will surprise, delight and generously reward you.



Robert Clark

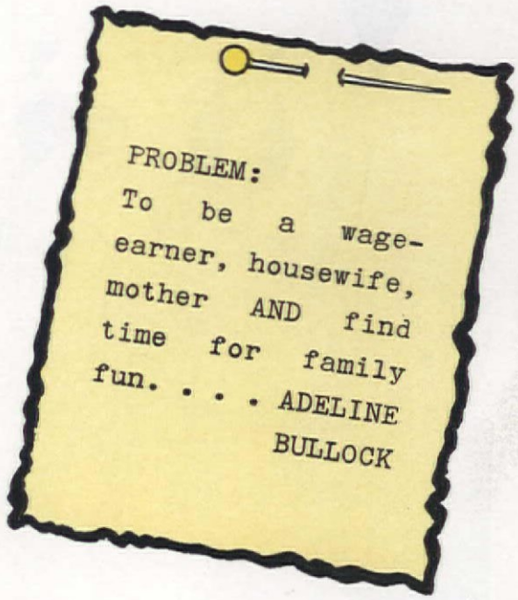


Clark's Studio

If you have ever thrilled to the beauty of cabbages—not as piled in bins at the store, but the big, spreading heads of powdery gray-green, the crisply crinkled leaves of the Savoy type, or the rich purple and plumtoned globes of the red Danish varieties—you may regret that they do not lend themselves to the treatment described above. Well, there is one kind of cabbage that is essentially ornamental and decorative and that can be grown in the outdoor garden and cut for

[Please turn to page 122]

"Mother, why don't we have fun any more?"



It is really all in taking the initial leap. One evening my son said, "Mother, we don't have any fun together any more!" His tone was wistful and his brow was puckered with concern.

"I know, Spike," I replied, "but Mother is very busy these days. Just you wait 'til Dad is better and I stay at home again, then we'll have a grand time."

"Why can't we have a little fun, now?" he insisted in true ten-year-old fashion.

I had been very busy since my husband's ill health elected me chief family wage-earner. I did a thorough job at work, I ran my home smoothly and saw to it that my three children were well cared for. I thought I was being pretty efficient and grew somewhat smug about it, until my young son, in his own fashion, woke me up to the fact that I had completely forgotten about fun.

His words drummed in my ears all evening. We weren't having any fun! Strange I hadn't thought of it myself. It would be a long time before I could be just a mother again; were we to have no fun until then? What had happened to all my ideals and pet theories regarding home life? Then and there the "Regular Fun" plan was born. It was a plan to make fun as necessary and important an item on our weekly budget as the milk bill. My husband and I worked it out that very evening. Entertaining in our own home, doing something together as a family, solved our problem. We would make more use of our home, and keep in touch with old friends and meet our children's friends. It would be more economical to plan and play together and would pay us greater dividends.

We had some misgivings, at first, but we decided it was worth a trial. The three children entered into the plan with stimulating enthusiasm. Each one suggested ways of entertaining and invited from one to three friends, depending upon just what we planned to do. Budgeting our fun like this gave us all something definite to look forward to and plan on and lessened the far too frequent habit of "putting off."

We started with an informal Saturday night supper, buffet style. We asked the children's closest friends and their parents. We invited them at five, for we wanted the party to get off to a gay start before supper at six.

Our menu was a simple one, entailing little more work or expense than our regular dinner. It was fun arranging the table. I used the things I'd been saving for company, company that had never been invited since I'd been working. Glistening amber glassware

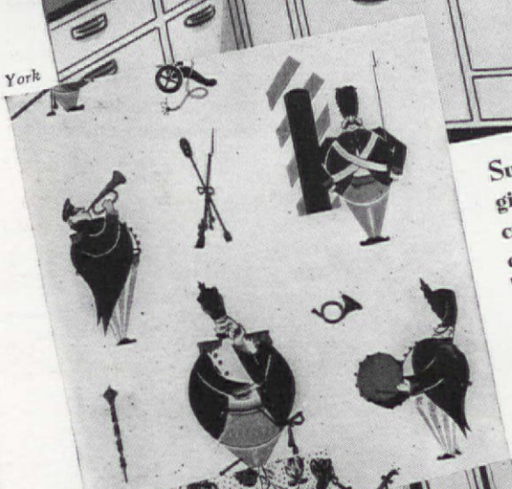
[Please turn to page 80]

You can't give a room sulphur and molasses, but we have another good idea . . . . . .

Wallpaper and a little glue will do it!



York



Sure cure for tired kitchens: giddy stripe to line the open cupboard shelves, toy soldiers on the wall above the sink. Try a curved wooden cornice for the window, a scalloped trim around the shelves, and paint them a bright color

WE KNOW—we've tried it and it works! Cheer, a bit of humor, a dash of decorator's "swank"—the best of rooms need it at this time of year. Just collect all the paraphernalia at your nearest department store, roll up your sleeves, and get busy. Copy our tricks and invent some of your own, and come what may, don't be afraid of a new idea, even if it's roses on the ceiling. A floral striped paper on either side of the fireplace will make that wall look as cool as a seaside garden; brightly wallpapered kitchen shelves will make dishwashing much more fun; the mars and scratches on that old chest of drawers can be prettily hidden beneath a flowered paper. The amusing designs and bright colors are all ready and waiting on the new wallpapers—you need only apply them wherever your house needs a spring tonic.

A. L. Diament



Becker, Smith & Page



Richard E. Thibaut



Have you an old chest whose back can't face the light of day? Paper it with an old-fashioned pattern like the one shown at left. That door at the right is no decorator's dream! It's just an ordinary, troublesome French door camouflaged by a very elegant wallpaper. You can do the same thing, with equally good results




Imperial


Straban

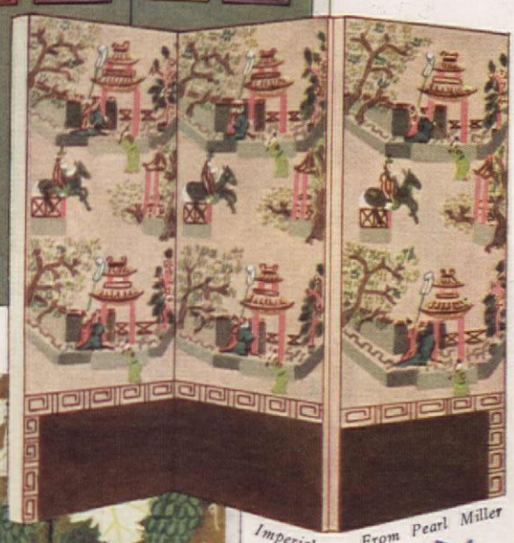
SCREEN STARS!

THEY will brighten a dark corner, camouflage an ugly archway, make a dramatic setting for the old sofa, partition off an alcove for the baby's crib, or turn one room into two. We're talking about screens, and we mean every word of it!

What's more, you need be neither a millionaire nor an artist to have one of these decorative conveniences. A local department store, lumber dealer, or handy man will supply the wooden frame. You will finish the job with paint, wallpaper, prints cut out of magazines or books. For instance, decorate a painted nursery screen with gay story book pictures. And elegant wallpapers will be within your budget too, because only one roll is required to cover the average screen.

Make your screens as you like them—formal, amusing, quaint. Here is a classic and marbleized combination for dignity, an adaptable painted screen with our flower prints, a grape design for glitter. The other two will "lift" the dullest dining room


The American Home flower prints


Imperial From Pearl Miller


Richard E. Thibaut


Imperial's "Countryside" stripe—A. H. Jacobs



Recipe printed on back of each photograph

• raspberry sherbet

• eclair icing

Tea Tables Can Be Different!

A pink tea, good as it is pretty. Raspberry ice and cream filled tiny chocolate eclairs add to the festivity, not the expense

A beautiful arrangement like a woodland pool done for our mushroom tea by Margaret McKinney. An outdoors decoration to complement unusual food flavors

• mushroom tea

(If near-by woods provide you with strange mushrooms and toadstools arrange them with moss and ferns for a centerpiece.)

Open Face Mushroom Sandwiches

(Combine by white sauce method, 3 tablespoons butter, 3 tablespoons flour, ¾ cup mushroom liquor, salt, pepper, 1½ teaspoons lemon juice, ¼ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce. Spread on buttered rounds of bread and top with a canned mushroom button.)

Tiny *Cream Puffs Filled with Thick Cheese Sauce

Broiled Oyster Canapes

(Dip small oysters in melted butter, sprinkle with salt and pepper, place on rounds of bread, top with a shake of cocktail sauce and broil. Serve at once.)

Candies Tea Assorted Nuts

**Recipe from the American Home Basic File*

• budget supper

***Chicken Pie** ***Baking Powder Biscuits**

***Gourmet's Vegetable Salad**

***Tomato Soup Spice Cake—*Cream Cheese Icing**

Coffee

**From the American Home Basic File* *Recipes will serve 8 people*

All photographs by F. M. Demarest

A TEA table *can* be just another tea table. The conventional white damask cloth, the bowl of hothouse flowers in studied arrangement, the tiny cakes and sandwiches, the candies and nuts. All this is quite acceptable, for after all if the table is attractive, the food is good, and the company congenial—isn't that what counts most? *But*, if you have a flair for the unusual, want your entertaining to be a little different, come with me. . . . Elizabeth Stewart

A MEXICAN TEA: Go to Mexico for your theme even if you are not lucky enough to go for a visit. It is worth buying a few inexpensive blue glasses or candlesticks, brown cooking bowls or straw figures. They are long useful and charming. A friend who has just returned may have just what you need. A blue glass Madonna bottle is the ideal centerpiece, surrounded by small blue glasses filled with garden nosegays. If you can find some of the corn husk figures, mount them on bars of soap by sticking pins down through their feet and stand them midway as though walking towards tea. Pottery dishes and decanters fit well. The Mexican brown ware is perfect. White plumbers' candles are suitable and cheap. Most original and admired are tiny tea tamales (AMERICAN HOME recipe), easy to make and served steaming. These are wrapped in corn husks or parchment paper and then tied with raffia, or brown yarn. For tidbits have tortilla chips which can be bought in cans, ripe olives, celery, parched corn. Clove and lemon are very appropriate for the tea.

STAR SPANGLED TEA: Red, white, and blue invitations and table color scheme. Flags and pictures of the White House and the State Capitol building furnish atmosphere. Paper stars may be strewn about the table, with blue flowers in a white bowl, red and white sandwiches, and white mint and cinnamon wafers.

SCOTCH TEA: Wee plaid bags may be used on the invitations for the contributions. A plaid gingham tablecloth is perfect. A neighbor may possess an old silver teapot from Scotland. Scotch oatcake, scones, and shortbread are delicious tea tidbits.

PASTEL TEA: Cover the table with a pastel cloth, pale green, yellow or orchid. Make teaspoonful cream puffs, chocolate frosted, and fill with peppermint ice cream just before serving. Cheese scones are a bit elaborate but well worth it. Confections (AMERICAN HOME recipe, christened Snow Drops) —a melt-in-your-mouth cooky nugget idea—go beautifully and if you can buy the white buttery mints in cans your tea is a triumph. If cream puffs are not your talent, buy very small colored paper cups and serve orange, grape, or lime sherbet, or all three,

[*Please turn to page 96*]

• budget suppers

*Cheese Noodle Casserole
Dill Pickles Celery Hard Rolls
Chilled Fruit Salad Coffee

• • •

*Kidney Bean and Tongue Salad
Bran Muffins Parsley Creamed Potatoes
*Hot Baked Spiced Oranges Coffee

Recipe from THE AMERICAN HOME BASIC FILE *Serve Buffet Style*

• "pink tea"

Rolled Watercress and Bacon Sandwiches

(Chop watercress very fine, add 1 or 2 slices crisp bacon, broken in pieces, blend with small amount mayonnaise. Spread on halves of thin slices white bread and roll. Stick sprig of watercress in ends to serve.)

*Walnut and Pimiento Sandwiches
Eclairs (use *cream puff recipe) Eclair Icing Whipped Cream Filling
Raspberry Sherbet Green and White Mints
Tea Lemon Cream

Recipe from THE AMERICAN HOME BASIC FILE

• eclair icing

MELT in top part of double boiler. 2 squares (2 ounces) unsweetened chocolate
Add .....4 tablespoons butter or margarine
5 tablespoons boiling water
When blended stir in gradually .....1 cup confectioners' sugar
¼ teaspoon vanilla
Melt over very low heat or hot water.....1/3 cup *fondant

ADD to chocolate mixture. Cool very slightly so icing does not run when eclairs are dipped. Reheat over boiling water as necessary.

Recipe from THE AMERICAN HOME BASIC FILE *Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

• raspberry sherbet

BOIL together 3 minutes .....2 cups water
1 cup sugar
Soak 5 minutes .....1 tablespoon gelatin in
Pour over hot syrup and stir until dissolved. ¼ cup cold water
Mash well .....1 quart fresh or frozen raspberries
Add .....½ cup lemon juice
Strain and when cold fold in.....2 egg whites, stiffly beaten

Turn into a 1-gallon freezer and freeze using 3 parts ice to 1 part ice cream salt. Repack and allow to ripen for 2 hours.

Recipe submitted by JESSIE J. DAVIS *Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Photograph printed on back of each recipe

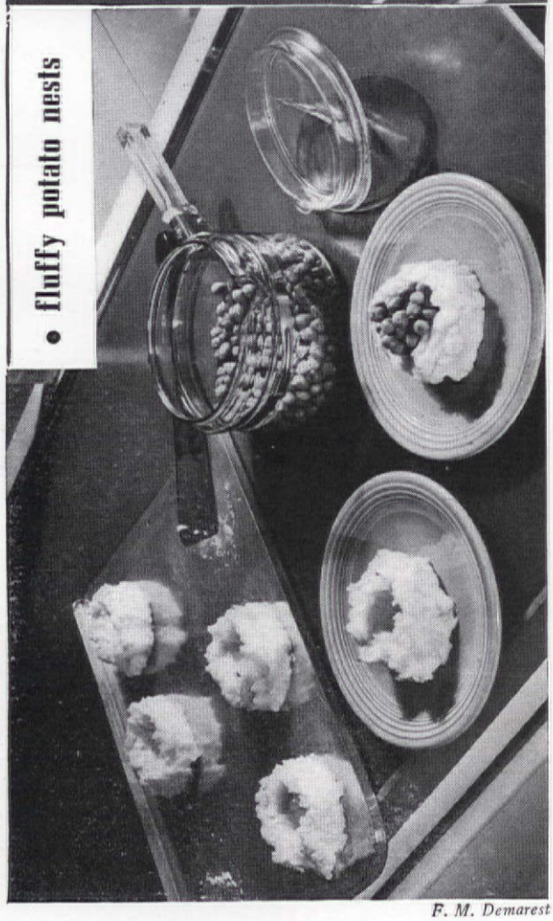
What will you do with the crowd after they're fed? Easy! See page 108, Dee Spencer

Orange tapioca pudding and mashed potato nests are healthful and, what's just as important, most children like them

Recipe printed on back of each photograph



• orange tapioca pudding



• fluffy potato nests

F. M. Demarest



Ross

"Mealtimes are nightmares!"

LILLIAN P. ROSS

How would you like to have someone correct your manners, scold you for not sitting up like a wooden soldier, give you those little anxious looks every five minutes, and offer you prunes for dessert while the rest of the party ate ice cream? Not very well! You'd probably be twice as stubborn as your young offspring who is expected to take it all with a cheerful smile and a second helping of spinach. If there's a climax to the family drama every night at dinner time, you had better do some constructive thinking about how to avoid these scenes.

Instead of letting mealtimes degenerate into just another irritating interlude, it is better for all concerned if the child eats by himself. A warm, busy kitchen and a meal served without comment or undue attention are conducive to a healthy appetite. Let your child sit in his highchair, or at the kitchen table, and go about baking your cake instead of noticing small and unimportant lapses from prescribed etiquette. The chances are that he will eat what's put before him because there is no tension and his appetite has an opportunity to flourish unchecked. If he has been properly trained—and no child is ever too young to be taught—good table manners will be natural to him.

Or you may want to try a system worked out successfully by some friends of mine: let the children eat when you do, in the dining room, but at a small table of their own. If you have a bay window or a fireplace the children would love it, but if not, either a corner with an air of privacy or an ordinary window with a pleasant view will do just as well. My friend always cut up the children's food and arranged it on their plates so they could get along unhampered by adult supervision. Since a small washable rug was placed under the table, a few crumbs on the floor or even a spilled glass of milk was not viewed as a major crisis in the household.

When these children were allowed to eat at the family table it was considered almost a

party, and they behaved accordingly. At such times the mother planned to have only the kind of food children should eat (which covers a large variety) and a simple dessert. Thus there was no reason to refuse them certain foods and perhaps cause a disturbance.

If you prefer to have the children dine with you every night, remember that a high-chair or kitchen stool is more comfortable for a child than a low chair. And a small napkin or an attractive cork mat may be placed under the child's plate so the tablecloth will not be ruined if he drops some food. Above all else, be calm and see that there is pleasant conversation. Since your child should have mastered the fundamentals of good table manners while still in the nursery stage, only very occasional reminders should be necessary. If you must correct the child, do so quietly: persistent nagging only makes matters worse. When a child realizes that dining with the family is a privilege to be paid for by good manners, he will behave rather than run the risk of being calmly but firmly sent off to finish the meal alone. Causing a scene may be exciting, but being sent from the table is just plain lonesome.

What about the child who scorns meals? The maternal anxiety is deepest when a mother knows so well what her child should eat—and he won't even taste it. The reason for the child's refusal may be traced to this very evident anxiety. Sometimes you need only tell an antagonistic child that he must finish his cereal to set him dead against it. Often the parent-dominated child has no other opportunity to assert his individuality except by refusing to eat as desired. And what food can compare with the emotions a pampered child enjoys when his actions cause so much worry to the whole family?

The most trivial change has been known to influence a child's appetite. He may eat heartily enough if left alone, or fed at some hour other than the one at which the parents turn their anxious eyes upon him. He may eat if allowed to feed himself. Or maybe he will finish his meals if the last few mouthfuls are fed to him. These changes must be made without any comment as to the probable benefit to his appetite.

Tolerance and flexibility—meaning common sense—are two more helpful allies in the business of making your child want vitamins instead of hot fudge. If he refuses a vegetable once in awhile, that is no great crime and calls for no special discipline. It becomes a deterrent to the child's appetite for vegetables only when the mother's inflexibility arouses a stubborn determination in the child never to eat vegetables as long as he lives.

It is commonplace for children to suffer temporary dislikes for good foods. Cereal, milk or vegetables, because of their daily inclusion in the diet, offer the child an opportunity to become rebellious and finicky. If you accept this temporary rebellion with no fireworks and make it possible for the child to get similar nutrition in some other form, before long the cereal (or vegetables or milk) will be accepted when it again appeals to the child's appetite.

A child younger than two years old should be given his meals alone and put to bed at a scheduled time. Sometimes the adults eat an hour or more later than is desirable for an active young child, and if he has to wait so long he may be too tired or sleepy to eat. And remember that all children, and especially those less than six years old, should rest or play quietly for a half hour before mealtime so they will not be over-tired or in an excitable condition when they eat.



Ross

There's something about a private little table that inspires the young to drink milk and eat cereal almost as readily as they do ice cream. And if the table is out in a nice sunny garden they may even look up and smile for you!

Photograph printed on back of each recipe

• fluffy potato nests

4 cups hot mashed potatoes
4 tablespoons melted butter or margarine
3 eggs, well beaten
½ cup warm milk (about)
1 teaspoon salt

Put hot potatoes through ricer or mash until completely free of lumps. Add the melted butter, warm milk, salt, and the well-beaten eggs and beat until light and fluffy. Arrange in nest-like shapes on greased baking sheet. Set in hot oven until lightly browned or about 20 minutes. Fill with hot seasoned peas or other vegetables. The nests may also be filled with an egg and baked until set. Makes 8 nests.

Recipe submitted by
Elaine F. MacIntyre

Tested in
The American Home Kitchen

• orange tapioca pudding

In top part of double boiler combine...
- 1 egg yolk
- 2 cups milk
- 3 tablespoons quick cooking tapioca
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon grated orange rind

Stir just enough to break up egg yolk and set over rapidly boiling water. Cook, stirring occasionally, 10 to 12 minutes from time water boils again.

Remove from heat, fold in.....1 egg white, stiffly beaten
Cool slightly.

Peel, cut in pieces, place in serving dishes.....2 oranges

Cover with tapioca mixture. Serve cold with whipped cream. Serves 5 or 6.

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Breakfast—the night before!

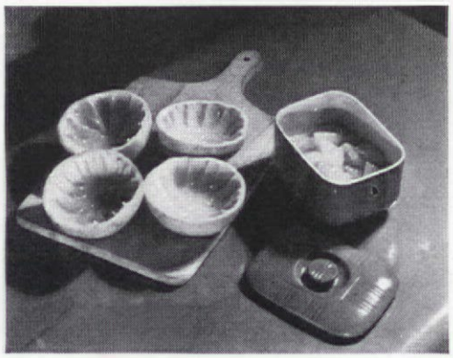
MARJORIE ACHESON

TO PEOPLE who enjoy a "good breakfast" the aroma of coffee and bacon is compensation for the rude summons of the alarm clock. Whether your working day begins at six, at eight, nine, or even ten, mere breaking fast has possibilities of rising from a plateau of boredom to aesthetic heights, an ideal easily reached by a good cook who can do sleight of hand tricks with food, modern kitchen gadgets, and colorful linens, dishes, and glassware. Though your day begins at six and your income matches that of very early morning workers, colorful muslin and dish counters in ten cent stores make beauty available to every table.



Have ground coffee and water in coffeemaker the night before

Deadly monotony of time, place, menu, and temperature are the greatest enemies of breakfast. Of these the worst offender is temperature. Warmed dishes for hot foods and chilled dishes for cold foods are real breakfast bracers. Seasonal foods add zest: icy melon in withering August, hot cakes in shivering January, and fresh lake or mountain fish in vacation days just hit the spot. Vacation time is the best for starting the year's improved eating campaign. In the first place appetites are on a rampage. Sunshine on sky-blue water, aswirl with white sailboats, red canoes, launches, and chattering outboard motors, is an infallible tonic to appetites. In fact, hustling up the rented cottage stove may become a major problem with the increased demand for food.



Cut grapefruit, remove the sections, place in refrigerator, serve in shells

In one toaster-not-to-be-found kitchen, we know of, pan-made toast was used the first morning as an emergency measure to supply the habitual toast crunchers with crunching material; the second morning pan-made toast was made on request. Perhaps butter on both sides of the bread made it taste especially good, or it may have been the appeal of the slowly caramelized, crisp, golden brown surfaces which was so inviting.

In the cool of the morning, the vacation at home family may really breakfast to advantage in the out-of-doors. Many children think of the garden as a place where one must pull weeds and play carefully lest mother's pet flowers be broken by croquet balls, the dog, and out-of-control home runners. A family breakfast, either served on trays from the kitchen, on a table in the garden, or prepared over the grill of the outdoor fireplace provides good motivation for an improved garden and bigger appetites.

Eating out-of-doors has been made a pleasure by artists and manufacturers. It is possible to banish insects by using an insect spray a few minutes before the table is set. Designers have combined utility and beauty in colorful beverage carriers. Gay pottery dishes retain heat and add color.

Meals in the open air save work for mother, especially with the coöperation of the children, who are more than willing to have a change from the regular dining room procedure which does become boring.

When vacation is over and school starts, mothers who were brought up to believe that to go to school on an empty stomach was flirting with disaster, sometimes have eating problems on their hands in the form of Jimmie and Mary, who would much rather have disaster overcome them than to take time to eat breakfast. To talk about the merits of eating breakfast is much less effective than doing something about it. Keeping the family guessing where and how the meal is to be served tantalizes even the worst offender into being present.

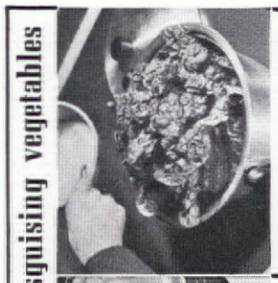
Breakfast on the porch, living room, or in the garden provides a pleasant experience for the family. Sunrooms solve the early morning chilly house problem common to the spring and fall of the year. Gay colored linens and dishes add to the warmth and help to overcome the first chill one feels after getting out of a warm bed. The comfortable chairs add to the sociality of the meal. On dreary days the living room fireplace may be an ideal background for leisurely breakfasts. Even without a fire the change in scenery makes the meal an occasion to remember. Another opportunity to break the monot-

[*Please turn to page 79*]

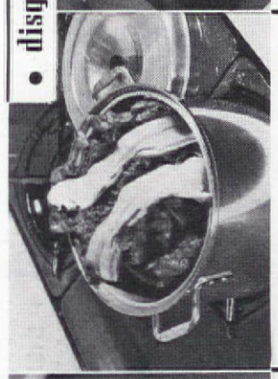


Make up waffle batter and cover tightly, place in refrigerator over night

• disguising vegetables

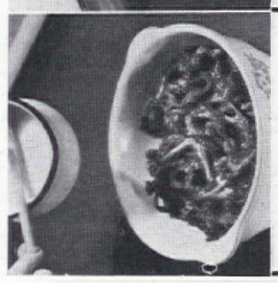


Place fresh **spinach** in a buttered baking dish. Pour in 2 well beaten eggs. Cover and bake in a moderately hot oven (375°).



Cook fresh **spinach** with bacon, using 3 or 4 slices to 2 pounds spinach. Or, add sliced mushrooms, browned in butter, to cooked spinach. Or serve plain with hot vinegar.

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN



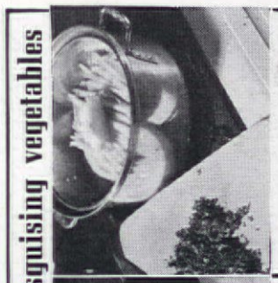
Melt ½ lb. Velveeta cheese and ½ c. milk. Place freshly cooked or canned **spinach** in a casserole. Pour on cheese mixture. Top with buttered crumbs and bake until brown.

"WHY MEN HATE SPINACH"

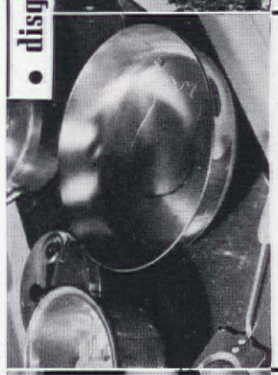
See page 54

AND TRY THESE RECIPES FOR REAL VARIETY

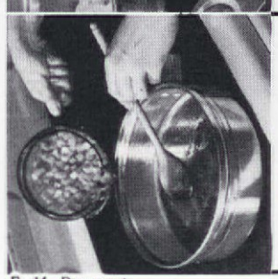
• disguising vegetables



Cook **carrots** cut in long strips. Sprinkle thickly with finely chopped parsley when seasoning with melted butter, salt, pepper.



Cook **carrot** circles until tender but firm. Brown in a little hot salad oil. Or, bake alternate layers sliced carrots and few onions with seasoning and a little water in moderate oven.



Brown a little butter in a pan, then heat cooked diced **carrots** in this. Or, roll carrots (only partly cooked) in drippings from roast and brown in pan with the roast.

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

F. M. Demarest

Why men hate spinach

SHIRLEY WARNER

His lip curls in a sneer; his nose crinkles up like a disgusted rabbit's; his eyes harden menacingly; his whole body droops in resignation—and he growls, "spinach!" Or perhaps "carrots!" or more probably "cauliflower!" (or, if he is unusually aggravated, "skunk cabbage!"). And then, if he is particularly out of sorts after a hard day at the office, he will add, "Are there human beings getting fed here or horses?"

And once again you, the cook, are in disgrace. Yet, what can the housewife do, when she well knows that the three cardinal rules of good cooking are tastiness, balance, and variety? A vegetable is an essential to every square meal—a truism since our ancestors came out of the caves and began keeping house. To each person certain vegetables are tasty, whereas all the rest are, to be polite, *not* tasty. However, you can't present your husband or your son every night, day in and day out, year in and year out, with sauerkraut, corned-beef and cabbage, stewed tomatoes, or whatever his one pet of the vegetable kingdom may be—if he is unusual enough to have one—or you have violated the third cardinal principle of good cooking. Besides, why kill the goose that lays the golden eggs? After a week of successive meals incorporating a vegetable that he claims to be reasonably to his taste, even the most proud or stubborn man will lose interest and admit that "perhaps tomatoes aren't as good as I thought—with all due credit to your cooking, of course, Dear."

The worst of it is that of all the members of this unpopular branch of foods, probably the most generously and violently despised by men is spinach, which is not only a vegetable, and consequently high in "what is good for one"; but it has, for most digestions, more recommendations as a health building food (odious phrase!) than any other one vegetable. It furnishes valuable balance to the over-preponderance of acid foods in our present-day diets. It has a high iron content, for bone and sinew building. It is a green vegetable, with very little carbohydrate and none of those cabbagelike ingredients that produce gas on the stomach. Above all, it contains a large amount of those vague, precious, and, to men, revolting, elements known as "vitamins."

Not spinach alone, but all the vegetables most health-giving, contain indispensable food elements; and, perversely, they seem to contain those elements in exactly inverse ratio to their popularity with the male consumer. And why? Precisely because they *are* "good for" man, woman, and child. A man, usually, has not concerned himself with diet lists, balanced meal-planning, or the theoretical advice that makes the life of a cook a constant martyrdom. But in most cases, ever since he can remember, each forkful of spinach he has ever attacked in all his life, has been accompanied by the maternal or wifely equivalent of "Eat a lot of that, John; it is so *good* for you"; and every mouthful he has ever crammed into his unwilling and resentful digestive system has been washed down with verbal puree of "vitamins," "iron," or "roughage." Such garnishes have become increasingly menacing to comfortable assimilation over the years, until the association has entirely removed whatever tastiness he might have found in the accursed vegetable. It has been in fact, literally thrust down his throat. The result is that when he sees, smells, or bravely tastes spinach, he firmly believes he is crowding into his prized stomach a sort of goulash of vile letters concocted from a tasteless alphabet soup, and microscopic rusty filings.

Really, you can't blame him. But, you see, it is up to you women to lay this lifelong specter that haunts him and ruins his appetite and disposition. To be a good cook involves not only preparing foods appetizingly, but also planning menus that will entice as well as nourish; and balancing diets by the meal, by the day, and over a lifetime. Therefore you must prove to him that spinach, as well as the other more hated vegetables, is really worth storage-space in that worshipped stomach of his. To do that, the only way to proceed is to tickle his palate. The way to a man's heart is, proverbially, through his stomach; and the quickest and pleasantest route thereto is through his organs of taste. You must make the time the food spends in his mouth a pleasant sojourn.

Of course his scruples are of long standing, probably well established. So, to reach the taste appealing stage, you must first contrive to get the vegetable into his mouth.

How? Disguise it! Camouflage first its smell, so that he will not turn up his nose and take leave of his appetite the minute he steps into the cooking-scented house. Drown for instance, the hated odor of cooking spinach with that of sizzling bacon. Men adore bacon. You, too, will like spinach cooked with bacon, or served with a little vinegar. Put him, literally, off the scent of string beans by making a sauce of onions and vinegar to bathe them in. (Or serve him "haricots verts à la poulette," a recipe from The American Home Basic File, and a supremely good way to serve string beans with a sauce of cream, lemon juice, paprika, etc.) Remove the curse of diced carrots by browning butter and filling the house with that aroma anticipatory of steaks being basted, and then heat the carrots in that. If you haven't heard of the trick of allaying the odor of boiling cabbage, broccoli, or sauerkraut by dropping a slice of apple into the pot, it is time you tried it.

Brown carrots, potatoes, and celery with his favorite roast; they will then seem a part of the roast to him. Make ingenious combinations: cauliflower au gratin; or celery and carrots together in meat stock. Dress your vegetables in holiday attire: instead of boiling spinach, bake it in a casserole with a beaten egg or two to give it body and a delightful new taste; serve carrots, instead of creamed, in the form of long, enticing spires, so brown with the oil in which they were fried that they are unrecognizable as vegetables; make crisp shoe-strings of turnips; sauté parsnips; slice zucchini squash lengthwise, dip it in batter, and fry it in a colander lowered into deep fat until the slices are crisp and golden;

[*Please turn to page 89*]

You must prove to him that spinach is really worth storage-space in that worshipped stomach of his. The only way to proceed is to tickle his palate. Here are ways to do it!

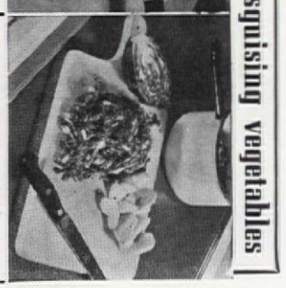
• disguising vegetables



Cook **white cabbage** with 1/3 cup canned pineapple juice and 2/3 cup water. The pineapple flavor will disappear, leaving the vegetable with a flavor all of its own.



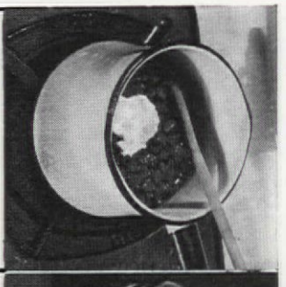
Dip cooked **cauliflowerettes** in lemon butter (lemon juice mixed with melted butter). Roll in buttered fine cracker crumbs. Put in a baking pan and brown them in a hot oven.



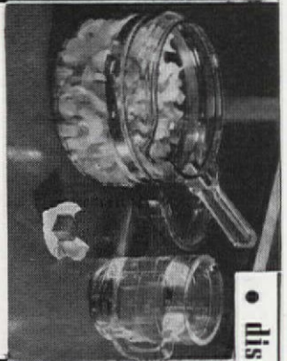
Shred 1 **red cabbage** and add 2 tart diced apples, 2 cloves, 1 tbsp. vinegar and ½ tsp. salt. Cook in a small quantity water.

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

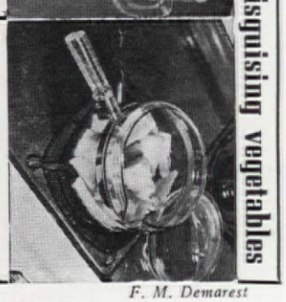
• disguising vegetables



Mix together ½ cup sugar, 1 tablespoon cornstarch, ½ cup water, ½ cup vinegar. Cook until thick and add diced cooked or canned **beets**, and 1 tablespoon butter.



Cook together diced **carrots** and sliced **celery** in meat stock. A bouillon cube dissolved in hot water may be used in place of the meat stock. Retain broth for soup.



Cut cooked **parsnips** lengthwise. Spread with ½ c. brown sugar, 1 tsp. salt, ¼ cup melted butter. Cook until siruplike.

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

F. M. Demarest



"M-M-M! WHY HAVEN'T I HAD THIS SOUP BEFORE?"

THE FIRST creamy spoonful prompts people to place Campbell's Cream of Mushroom among their best-liked, soon-to-be-served-again dishes. This has happened recently in thousands of homes—among men and women, among young and old. And because its flavor is so delightful, this new-found treat is now appearing on their tables more and more frequently.

You'll like Campbell's Cream of Mushroom, too. It's deliciously thick and smooth, for Campbell's make it from especially heavy cream. And at every taste, you thrill to the rare flavor of fresh young hothouse mushrooms. There are mushroom *slices* all through it—tempting, tender, and plentiful! Try Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup soon—add a welcome newcomer to your old-favorite dishes!

This soup is hailed
In every town;
It's worth your while
To jot it down!

Campbell's
CONDENSED
CREAM OF MUSHROOM
SOUP

Look for the Red-and-White Label

Campbell's CREAM of MUSHROOM



Its LUXURY TEXTURE gives you more Comfort and Protection

THE texture of flower petals is a fitting symbol of the unusual softness of Luxury Texture ScotTissue. Luxury Texture also gives you greater absorbency and firmness for immaculate cleansing. Yet it costs no more than ordinary tissue.

Luxury Texture's gentle protection is especially reassuring to mothers of young children. Ask for ScotTissue *today*.

Copr., 1940, Scott Paper Co. Also makers of Waldorf Tissue and ScotTowels.

What's New?

WHAT'S new? is the constant theme of all building products and no two rooms in the house get more attention from the manufacturers than the kitchen and bathroom. Exciting, practical new materials, gadgets and equipment are being developed and marketed today to make these rooms brighter, pleasanter, easier to keep clean and in repair.





1. A new line of inexpensive bathroom wall fixtures, Celloware, especially adaptable to linoleum and wallboard walls, in red, yellow, green, ivory, black and white. Eight fixtures are made, none of them costing more than two dollars; most of them are around one dollar apiece. You can get towel bars from eighteen inches to three feet long, recessed soap dishes, tumbler holders, grab bars for the tub or shower, paper holders, and tooth brush and tumbler holders in this light, durable new composition. B. & T. Floor Co. makes them.

2. When your furnace runs out of fuel, the delivery man needn't tramp over your freshly scrubbed floor on his way to measure the oil in your basement tank. He needn't enter the house at all which means that you don't have to wait at home all morning or afternoon for his arrival. A Ventalarm can be fitted to the tank to act as a signal in filling the oil tank. It whistles from the time the oil man starts filling the tank until the oil reaches the proper height in the tank. It is also a protection for your grass and shrubbery since it prevents the overflow of oil which kills them. The fact that no space need be left for getting at the basement tank means that your basement can be planned more advantageously with the tank tucked away. Scully Signal Co.





3. The kitchen is one room where sound insulation is always appreciated. Who doesn't

You wouldn't buy a hat that didn't fit



IN HOME INSULATION, TOO— IT'S THE "FIT" THAT COUNTS!

Don't be "skimped" . . . You can have Johns-Manville Rock Wool *PROPERLY* installed *for as little as*—

$6.60 A MONTH
NO DOWN PAYMENT

WHEN a man buys a hat, good material is not enough—it must also *fit!*

Johns-Manville engineers looked upon the insulation of homes the same way. The first thing they did was to make the most efficient fireproof Rock Wool known. But good material is not enough! . . . The *installation* must also be *honest, complete* and thorough down to the last dormer-window corner. And here's where your local J-M Home Insulation contractor comes in. He doesn't skimp. He does the job thoroughly, completely insulating all heat leaking spaces in your house.

That is why a Johns-Manville insulation job pays for itself with fuel savings up to 30%.

You get a written estimate

Johns-Manville Insulation contractors are *all trained men.* Before you buy, they specify in writing exactly what needs to be done to thoroughly insulate your home. J-M Home Insulation contractors have insulated over 200,000 homes in the last ten years. Rely on your local J-M contractor for a fair price —a thorough insulation job.



Here is What Happens in a "Skimped" Job: Note voids . . . "Leaky," incomplete insulation will cause cold spots. A J-M job is complete in every detail—J-M Rock Wool is "blown" to the exact, efficient firmness that helps keep winter heat IN and summer heat OUT.

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To help us serve you better, please check whether you plan insulating—

☐ new house ☐ present home

JM PRODUCTS

JOHNS-MANVILLE HOME INSULATION

(See advertisement on page 96 in this magazine for information on J-M Insulation for new homes.)

"I'll be the laughing stock of the town..."



MARY: Oh, mother, why did that snooty Mrs. Palmer have to drop in today! Now it'll be all over town that even my tea napkins look so gray, they aren't fit to be seen!

MOTHER: Lucky I dropped in, honey. That soap you're using is so weak-kneed it doesn't get things really clean. Come on—I'll show you how to say goodbye to tattle-tale gray.



MOTHER: There! Just hustle home and put Fels-Naptha to work with its richer *golden* soap and busy, dirt-loosening *naptha*. Use the bar or the grand new chips. Either way, your wash will be so sweet and white, you won't recognize it!



MARY: Whe-e-e, Mother! I'll say your tip about Fels-Naptha turned the tables! Mrs. Palmer came to tea again and her eyes simply popped when she saw my snowy linens. And she ended by asking Tom and me to a party!

Now—Fels-Naptha brings you 2 grand ways to banish "Tattle-Tale Gray"



Use the Fels-Naptha bar for bar-soap jobs—and get the *extra* help of richer *golden* soap combined with gentle *naptha!* Together, these two cleaners make the grimiest, greasiest dirt let go—without hard rubbing! They get clothes so white, they fairly sparkle in the sun!

Use Fels-Naptha Soap *Chips* —wherever you've been using box-soap. They speed washing machines—because they're HUSKIER—not puffed up with air like flimsy, sneezy powders. And they whip up the creamiest suds ever—because they now hold a marvelous new suds-builder!

COPR. 1940, FELS & CO.

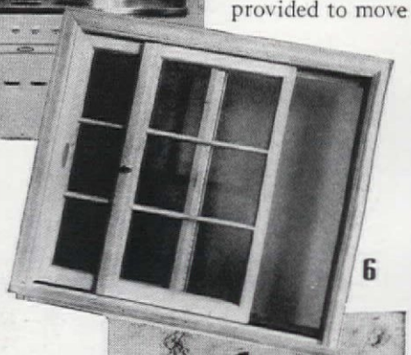
hate the din and clatter of pots, pans, and dishes? Squares of Acousti-Celotex can be laid like tiles over any kitchen ceiling and they can be painted to harmonize or contrast with the walls. The material is perforated, which gives it its absorbent quality, but it can be painted and repainted without danger of impairing its wearing qualities. Celotex Corp.

4. Ludlite, a stainless steel, is the gleaming light gauge metal forming the moulded sink, counter tops, and trim of this modern kitchen corner. On the walls above the splash board, Ludlite Flex, the same material in flexible form, is used in small decorative tiles. Large sheets of rigid Ludlite Bord can be used for shower enclosures, whole kitchen or bathroom wall coverings, table tops, even as a modern fireplace facing; it is easily cemented to plaster, wood, wallboard or concrete. Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corp.

5. You can now have an oven built in your kitchen just where you want it, separate from the range top, if that suits the way you work. Separating cooking units in this way permits flexible arrangements in kitchen planning. You could have as many as six heating plates on a cabinet under the window, as shown, here, and an adjoining bake oven installed at counter height—no stooping! Thermador Electrical Mfg. Co.

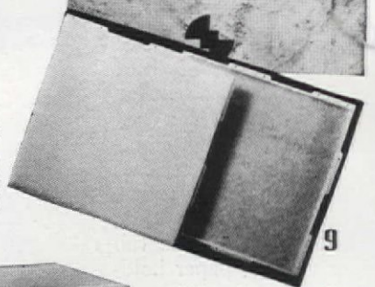
6. At last a real innovation in window design, a type of wood sash which looks like a casement window when closed but slides open sidewise along steel glides. Each sash is flush, in line with the other when the window is closed. You turn a handle and pull the sash in and over to open it. No counter balances or hinges are used and double glazing or storm sash can be provided to move with the window sash. Ordinary size windows can be taken out completely by one person for really effective cleaning. A pair of sash can provide a single window opening six feet wide and five feet six inches high. Any size opening can be built up with multiple sash; it is adaptable to most any type of house design you may have. Andersen Corp.

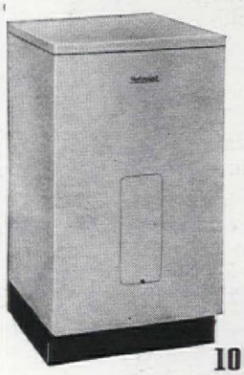












7. One of the new, 1940 patterns is this marbleized linoleum with small inserts of brilliant contrasting color. The inserts occur at eighteen inch intervals. Parafine Cos., Inc.

8. Sometimes you are upstairs when the doorbell rings, and it isn't convenient to come down unless you know the call is impor-

[*Please turn to page 66*]

For early spring shoppers

For those people who drink "quarts" of water every day—a new "Thermos" brand water service set **(1.)**, designed by Henry Dreyfuss. The pint set has tray and one glass, the quart, tray and two glasses. In enamel finish with brushed chromium trim in russet, gray, and dark green. Pint size also comes in ivory; quart in chocolate brown. Of course the "Water Bar" keeps water ice cold all day long, regardless of room temperature. Pint sets are $10, quart sets $14. The American Thermos Bottle Company.

2. New glass curtains, which can lead a "double life," come in a variety of materials and styles. They're headed and ready to hang from *either end*, so that they can be reversed after laundering. It's always difficult to keep lower portion from excessive wear, but now, by reversing them occasionally wear can be equalized. Fairclough & Gold makes these curtains.

3. Shalimar dinner ware is remarkably inexpensive, considering its delicate charm. Dinner plates, for instance, are 40¢ each, tea cups and saucers, 40¢ for the two pieces. Breakfast for one, as shown, costs $3.20. The Steubenville Pottery Co.

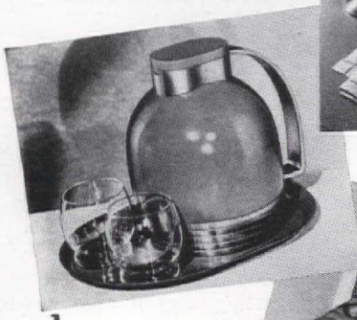
4. A new Non-Klog shaker keeps salt and pepper dry. Little globes in red, yellow, green, or blue, fit snugly over a small cone on a special stand, so no moisture can get in. Sets cannot break or spill their contents. 25¢ to 29¢. No-Clo, Inc. manufacturers.

5. A new Venetian blind, called the Viking Cordless, has slats and ladder tapes that are easily removable for cleaning or replacement. It is installed with side guides, which keep slats from swaying or flapping. Duplex ladder tape has side for the outside of the blind in mingled linen tone, the room side in a color, making it possible to have all blinds look uniform from exterior of house. There is a wide range of colors to match any room. Viking Cordless blinds cost 75¢ a square foot, installed. Carey-McFall Co.



F. M. Demarest

3

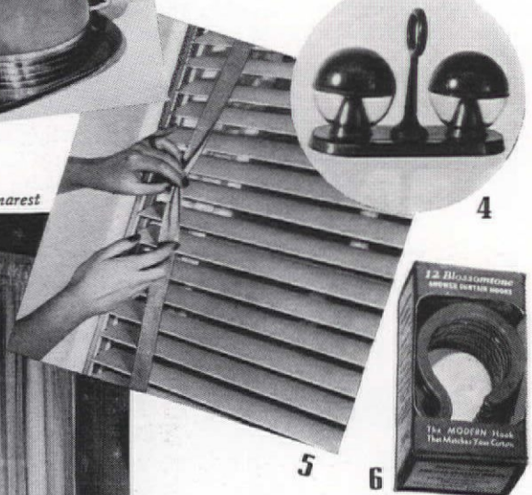


1

2

F. M. Demarest





4

5

6

6. Try shower curtain hooks that will not rust or break and are not affected by heat or cold. 75¢ per dozen in a full range of colors. Blossom Manufacturing Co.



Thurs.: The crowd came over. We played musical comedy favorites of the past and present on Victor Records...*Fri.:* Katie's birthday. Had a party for her after school, and the children danced to the world's best dance bands on Victor Records . . . *Sat.:* Guffawed at Alec Templeton's newest musical whimsey on Victor Records. Went out dancing later and told our friends to be sure not to miss the new Templeton records...*Sun.:* Aunt Sue and Uncle John dropped in. Entertained them with chamber music . . . Then Uncle J. to our surprise, said: "Don't Victor Records furnish snappier music, too?" So we finished off with Tommy Dorsey and Larry Clinton which they adored.

The music you want, when you want it—and that is music at its most enjoyable—is always at hand, when you own a Victor Record Library. Make this pleasure yours. Hear a Victor Red Seal Record Concert by your favorites of the world's greatest artists. Hear it on a 1940 RCA Victrola at your music merchant's. The RCA Victrola is the only instrument designed by the same engineers who perfected Victor Higher Fidelity Recording. Model U-40 shown above combines record and radio entertainment. It has the Gentle Action Automatic Record Changer, abundant volume and reserve power, which comes from 6 watts push-pull output. Radio has Push-Button Tuning, Built-in Magic Loop Antenna, American and foreign reception, and plug-in for Television Attachment. The distinguished cabinet is available in rich walnut or mahogany veneers. All this at a history-making low price! . . $120*

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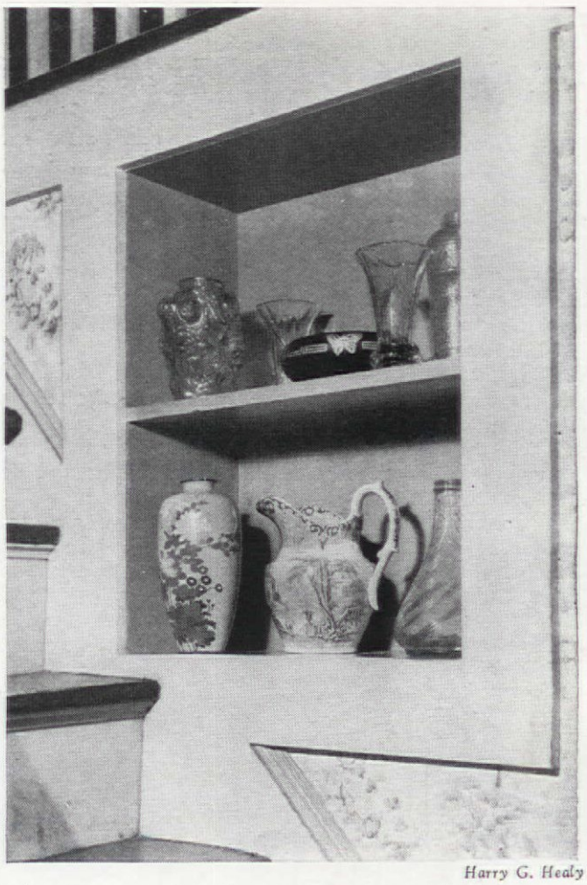
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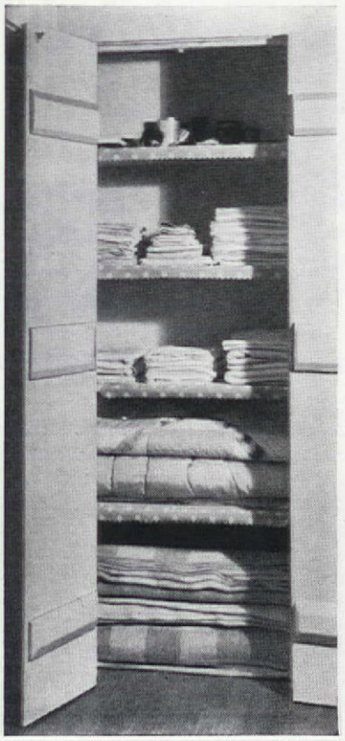


Harry G. Healy

Closets and Cubbyholes

RUTH CROSS

When the original of our Connecticut farmhouse was built something over two hundred years ago, it had not a single clothes closet and only two small cupboards. Those were the days when the lords of creation built houses strictly according to their own ideas. They achieved beauty, but convenience and labor-saving devices for the women folk of the family had not entered their heads.



Where, I wondered, as we puttered around in the old house before starting to rejuvenate it, did they hang their clothes? Where did they keep the boots and jackets, the hoop-skirts and the petticoats?—all the thousand and one things that even a Puritan family must keep somewhere? Did they suspend them from the ceiling or just throw them down in the middle of the floor?

As recently as two decades ago, I remember moving into an otherwise very attractive house down South where there was not one solitary closet—not even an excuse for one. Modern women have, of course, made male architects closet-minded to a degree, but there are still thousands—maybe millions—of homes in this supposedly up-and-coming land of ours where storage arrangements are sketchy and inadequate if not non-existent. Still in some sections a man's world, you see.

Personally, I would rather take my chances any day with one room and five closets than with ten rooms and no closet at all.

DO YOU GREET YOUR GUESTS COLDLY?

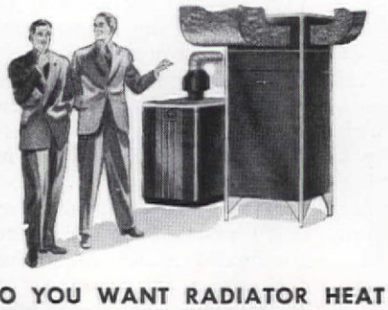


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G-E Furnace (oil or gas; for steam, hot water or vapor) will end your heating troubles. It's beautifully streamlined—gives you the most economical, care-free heat *plus* abundant hot water summer and winter.



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Here's the modern way to combine advantages of radiator heat and *conditioned* warm air heat—G-E Furnace (oil or gas) with Conditioner Unit. Owners say it's the ideal way to heat your home—and you can add Summer Cooling!

Whether you want radiator or warm air heat, burning oil or gas, there's a heating unit by General Electric to give you clean and comfortable automatic heat.

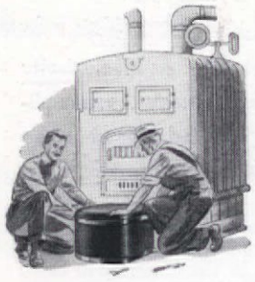


WANT A COOL HOUSE THIS SUMMER?

G-E Air Conditioning offers you compact units for cooling your bedroom or living room, or for conditioning your whole house. And a complete line of inexpensive air circulating fans that can add amazingly to your comfort.

DO YOU WANT WARM AIR HEAT?

G-E Winter Air Conditioner (oil or gas) is the smart buy for you. It circulates *conditioned* warm air—filtered free of dust and humidified for your greater comfort and better health. You can add Summer Cooling at any time.



WANT AN OIL BURNER FOR YOUR PRESENT HEATING PLANT?

G-E Oil Burner can be installed in your present furnace in one day, whether you have radiator or warm air heat. Costs surprisingly little to buy and to run. Quiet, odorless—you won't even have to oil it!

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Please send me literature on G-E ☐ Oil Furnace for radiator heat; ☐ Oil Winter Air Conditioner for warm air heat; ☐ Oil Burner for my present furnace; ☐ Gas Furnace for radiator heat; ☐ Gas Winter Air Conditioner for warm air heat; ☐ Summer Air Conditioning.

Name.....

Address.....

"Fine coat restored... jitters vanished – *after 39 days on Pard!*"



A certified statement from W. E. Rock, Chicago, Illinois

"Thin and nervous—that's how 'Babe', my four-year-old Boston Terrier, was. And her coat was in poor condition . . . dull, harsh. When she showed no signs of improvement, I had our own veterinarian examine her, and he recommended an exclusive Pard diet. 'Babe' began improving almost overnight. In a little over one month her coat was full and glossy. No more fidgets! And ever since, her health has been splendid."

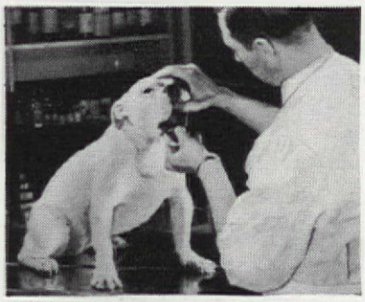
The facts of this case history were sworn to before me on October 31st, 1939—Robert P. O'Brien, Notary Public.

Leading veterinarians blame faulty diet for causing many common ailments. The Pard-fed dogs at Swift's Research Kennels escaped them all!

In their fight to prevent common dog ailments, veterinarians are attacking *incorrect feeding*. They have found that in the majority of cases malnutrition due to hit-or-miss diet is the *real* cause for such widespread complaints as excessive shedding, nervousness, and many others.

These crusading veterinarians are recommending Pard, because Pard has proved its value in a conclusive scientific test. 290 registered dogs—representing four consecutive generations—have been raised on Pard alone . . . and while on Pard, *none ever suffered from diet-caused ailments of any kind!* All matured normally, were full of pep and vigor.

Have a good veterinarian give your dog a clean bill of health! To keep him that way, feed Pard regularly.



WINNERS IN PARD'S $5,000.00 TWIN PUPPY-NAMING CONTEST!

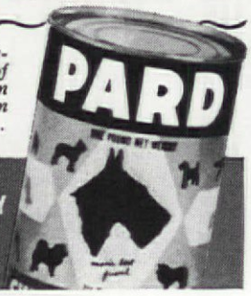
$5,000.00 FIRST PRIZE
Miss Lillian G. Luce, Kalamazoo, Michigan

$500.00 SECOND PRIZE
Mrs. Inez D. Bigler, Kansas City, Missouri

$100.00 THIRD PRIZE
Mrs. A. B. Harrison, Jacksonville, Florida

All other cash prize winners have been notified by mail.

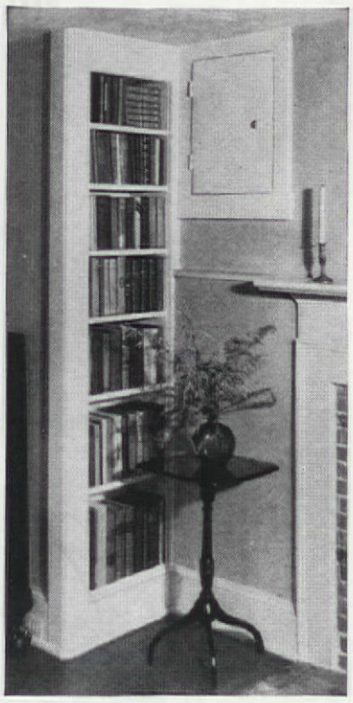
Hit-or-miss feeding condemned by many leading veterinarians; recommend Pard *Dr. V. M. H. . . . . , of Illinois, says: "Nervousness, excessive shedding, and skin irritations are, in 9 cases out of 10, caused by malnutrition due to hit-or-miss feeding." In such cases, Dr. H . . . . . recommends Pard exclusively.*



PARD SWIFT'S NUTRITIONALLY BALANCED DOG FOOD

Without ample tucking-away space, good housekeeping is almost impossible. When the contractor saw our remodeling plans, he shook his head over the multiplicity of closets and cupboards jumping out at him from every room. But my husband said, "You may as well go ahead and shoot the works. The woman's mind is made up!"

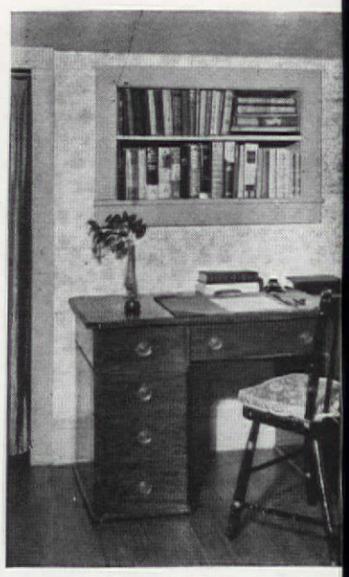
And so now that seven-room house, once so negligent in the matter of storage space, contains some twenty-odd closets, cubby-holes and niches of various kinds. That sounds extravagant, but most of them occupy footage that would otherwise have been a total loss. Each is a real first aid to efficient homemaking, a convenience and a comfort. A number of them are beautiful as well; integral parts of the simple decorative scheme of the house.



Shelves for my favorite books, between the bed and fireplace

To begin at the top, each of our two smallish guest rooms has a closet, one unusually capacious. Both are, of course, fitted with poles and shelves. They have a tricky arrangement for shoes: low shelves on rollers, easily pushed around when you want to clean under them. In the upstairs hall, between southeast guest room and bathroom door is a floor-to-ceiling linen closet—very handily placed. The doors for this were made from one of the original battens, cut in two and fitted with its own wooden knobs.

The bath itself has a double medicine cabinet, with a mirror for each side; a real luxury when this important room must be shared. At the end of the set-in tub a three-foot by fourteen-inch space, which because of the low sweep of the ceiling on that side could not possibly have been used for anything else, serves as soiled linen container. This "hamper" is inconspicuous, really a part of the tub and supremely useful. The door opens upward with a small nickel pull. In go towels, sheets, face cloths. Neat and handy to the NTH degree.



Closets and bookshelves under a ceiling too low for comfort

In the large bedroom, which is also my study, we sliced forty inches off the whole north end and made it into two splendid closets, with poles and generous shelf room at each end. Plenty of hooks, too. Here again, the space would otherwise have been wasted because the ceiling was so low on that side we could not walk without bumping our heads. Forty inches by twelve feet tots up to a very respectable storage capacity. Curtains, which slip easily on rings, obviate the need of doors.

ABOVE my desk, which is placed along the wall between the closet openings, and extending back into this closet space, are two convenient bookshelves which hold most of my reference books. To the right of the desk and just beyond one of the closet openings is a built-in chest of drawers. It covers a gash in the floor necessary in order to give head room for the stairs, and serves very well as a filing cabinet.

A floor-to-ceiling niche between the small fireplace and the bed in this same room serves as a home for more personal books. It's nice to be able to reach out at any hour of the night and pluck a favorite volume from the shelves. Both book niches, as well as the inside of the closets, are painted a rich salmon rose, to harmonize and contrast with walls and furnishings. There's something particularly soul-satisfying about just letting yourself go in the matter of color on the inside of closets, and it never fails to give a pleasant shock of surprise every



Gardenias and Bouvardia,—one of a series of flower arrangements illustrated and diagramed in the book offered on this page. •

Refreshing touches make a house a home

Everybody welcomes those things that brighten a home, that make it a pleasant place to be and to see. Flowers, pleasantly arranged, add to the spirit of living. So does ice-cold Coca-Cola. It's one of the pleasant things of life that belongs in every home. The life and sparkle of ice-cold Coca-Cola add life and sparkle to any occasion. Pure, wholesome, delicious,—Coca-Cola fills a unique place in the scheme of refreshing things.



Always serve Coca-Cola ice-cold. That means to pre-cool the bottles in your refrigerator. Then use ice to keep them cold. There are many attractive ways to do this. And remember, there is a very convenient way to get Coca-Cola,—in the handy six-bottle carton, from your dealer.



The Six-Bottle Carton



Get this beautiful book

• "Flower Arranging" by Laura Lee Burroughs contains 48 exquisite color reproductions of flower arrangements and many practical suggestions on this rapidly growing and fascinating art. Send your name and address, clearly printed, enclosing ten cents (coin or stamps) to cover cost of handling and mailing, to The Coca-Cola Company, Atlanta, Georgia, Dept. A.

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"What's the best cleanser for all my housework?"



BON AMI...it works so fast. Yet it doesn't scratch or dull my kitchen sink!



BON AMI . . . it's safe to use on my costly refrigerator . . . keeps it sweet-smelling and sanitary . . . shining inside and out!



BON AMI . . . it's kept my bathtub smooth, unscratched—*polished like new* for years!

Bon Ami

polishes as it cleans

Isn't this a sensible idea?

So many things depend on the cleanser you use: The appearance of your bathtubs, sinks, and the many other articles you clean. The condition of your hands. The amount of work necessary to get results.

Isn't it sensible to use a cleanser that cleans quickly, thoroughly—yet contains none of the gritty substances that scratch and dull surfaces—none of the harsh caustics that make hands rough and red? Millions of women say "Yes" by using Bon Ami exclusively.

"hasn't scratched yet!"

Copr. 1939, The Bon Ami Co.

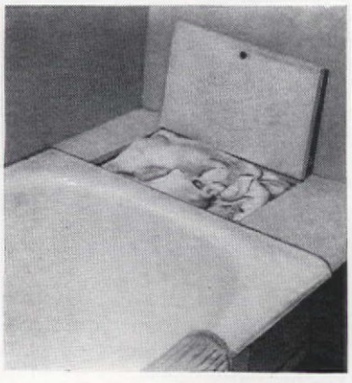
time you open a door or pull back a curtain showing a gay color.

There, you see, we already have nine closets and cubbyholes on the second floor of our small house, only three of them consuming space which could have been used in any other way. Proceeding down the narrow little stairway with its crook at the bottom, we find beside the stairs a charming little two-shelf niche, where we keep flower containers. This was built into waste space over the huge Dutch oven and painted jade green inside—a good background for the various bowls and vases.

Under the stairs there is quite a good-sized closet for mops, dustpans and vacuum cleaner, with a rack on one side for storing papers, bags and the like, and a shelf for cleaning materials. Opening out of this, into the innermost parts of the chimney—somewhere *under* the Dutch oven—is a small secret cupboard, one of the two originals in the house. We use it for storing odds and ends not often needed.

In the study there is, in addition to bookshelves, a very large cupboard above and to the left of the mantel. This also nestles down over that most obliging Dutch oven. It is three feet high and some four and a half feet in depth, an excellent place for storing old magazines and my husband's vast assortment of pipes.

The living room—once a kitchen—enshrines, just to the right of the great fireplace and the already much-advertised oven, our choicest treasure. This is a



Built-in "hamper" at one end of tub takes care of soiled linens

real shell cupboard, built by my husband, as were all the other cabinets and cubbyholes in the house. It has a curved back, a shell or sunburst half-dome effect at the top and shelves scalloped in traditional fashion. It is painted a rich robin's-egg blue inside, with the sunburst and edges of shelves gilded. The whole thing contrasts handsomely with old ivory woodwork and a landscape paper in gray-and-gold tones with skylike patches of robin's-egg blue here and there. Old glass and a bright tangerine tea set further enhance its charm. (Illustrated below.)

This cupboard was wedged with considerable effort, and not a little profanity, into a recess under the stairs. Its curved hind parts are visible in the mop closet.

Under the brick oven, which is simply enormous, there is a little nook—one of the primeval two—whose use we have never quite fathomed. Whether it housed the kindling, was used to raise the bread or as a warm spot for tabby on winter nights—well, we decided to stay neutral and keep it just for looks.

IN THE breakfast room, opening off the living room, there is a very nice corner cupboard also with scalloped shelves, lacquered Chinese red inside to match our glazed chintz curtains and the cushions on the black antique chairs. In this room, too, there is a coat closet, handily next to the door opening on the porch. Here the man of the house can hang up his coats and such without tracking muddy boots through other rooms.

Just back of this closet, but with a door debouching on the porch, there is a wood container. This has a door opening outwards so that a two weeks' supply of wood can be stacked from the outside and removed without stirring a foot from under shelter—no small item when a New England blizzard is blowing and the thermometer sinking into the minus column.

Well, that counts up to about eighteen storage places already. I didn't know myself that we had so many until I started writing this chronicle! And there is still the kitchen to account for.

A sunburst cupboard adds its share of charm to living room



It's a "Green" Girl . . .



. . . at winter sports who bundles up in clothes as thick as a mattress! Those who *know* wear outfits that aren't hampering . . . choose clothes expertly designed to protect, without being bulky!

For the same reason, girls who *know* choose Kotex sanitary napkins. Made in soft, smooth *folds* (with more material where needed . . . less in the non-effective portions of the pad), the New Kotex is naturally less bulky than pads made with loose, wadded fillers. Less apt to chafe, too, for Kotex is entirely sheathed in cotton, before it's wrapped in gauze!



To guard pearls and pins—some smart person designed the modern safety clasp . . . And to guard your peace of mind, the makers of Kotex now put a moisture-resistant panel between the soft folds of every Kotex pad! Then . . . to eliminate tell-tale bulges . . . Kotex gives you tapered, *pressed* ends! Think! . . . No thick, stubby ends to make embarrassing outlines! Kotex ends are invisible (and patented)!



Kotex* comes in 3 sizes, too! Super—Regular—Junior. Kotex is the only disposable sanitary napkin that offers you a choice of 3 different sizes! (So you may vary the size pad according to each day's needs!) . . . All 3 sizes have soft, *folded* centers . . . flat, tapered ends . . . and moisture-resistant "safety panels." *All 3 sizes sell for the same low price!*

FEEL
ITS NEW SOFTNESS
PROVE
ITS NEW SAFETY
COMPARE
ITS NEW, FLATTER ENDS



*Trade Mark Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

"You scarcely know you're wearing it!"



All Those in Favor of Saving Your Home

Say "I"



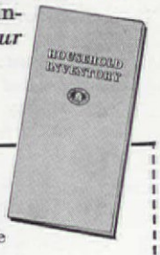
There's a question before the house — "Should you, or should you not, keep an inventory of everything in your home—your furniture, silverware, clothes, etc."

If you *do* keep an inventory, you can see at a glance how much insurance you need. Your insurance agent can tell if you have proper protection. And he can make valuable recommendations for making your home safer.

Moreover, if you have a fire or burglary, your inventory will help you determine accurately how much your claim should be. You'll get a quicker and fairer settlement.

Without an inventory, the chances are you'll buy insurance by sheer guesswork. You may or *may not* be properly protected.

Wise homeowners *always* keep inventories. Start yours now. Simply send the coupon below for one of our new, free and improved inventories for *your* personal use.



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Gentlemen: Send me, without obligation, your free "Household Inventory."

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Address.....

That has, in addition to the regulation built-in cabinet and ironing-board, open shelves extending around one and one-half sides of the ten-by-twelve room. These, a very narrow one below, an eight-inch one above, are over sink, drainboard, set tub and part of the table. I like open shelves in a kitchen.

My kitchen is a workshop and I keep all the most vital and frequently used equipment and materials out on a hook or in a tin or glass container. This arrangement saves much time and nerve-strain and the general effect seems to me much "homier." Why must all our kitchens be standardized to look like laboratories?

There was another point on which I had to take a do-or-die stand with the contractor. I was grimly resolved that my shelves and hooks were *not* going to be stuck up next to the ceiling, where I had to reach my daylights out to get at a measuring cup—or stand on a ladder to bring down a rolling pin. He was equally determined, for it is a universal masculine conviction that housewives have arms like windmills! However, I won out and every shelf is within reach.

A shelf for cookbooks and card index, and another for meat grinder, graters, and juice extractor—where the latter implements can be left always set up and ready for instant use—are invaluable aids.

The most cherished and convenient of all our little kitchen devices is an open-face pot-closet at right of and facing toward the stove. A niche formerly occupied by the hot-water tank before it migrated cellarward proved just the place for it. It has six shelves, the upper ones only five inches or so apart, for shallow tins, muffin pans, and the like. These take care of all the things needed at the stove.

Well, that's the sum of our closets and cubbyholes and I must confess I've quite lost track of the number. But I do know there is not one too many. And, since we have schemed for them, built them, and painted them all ourselves, they seem to belong to us in a very special way.

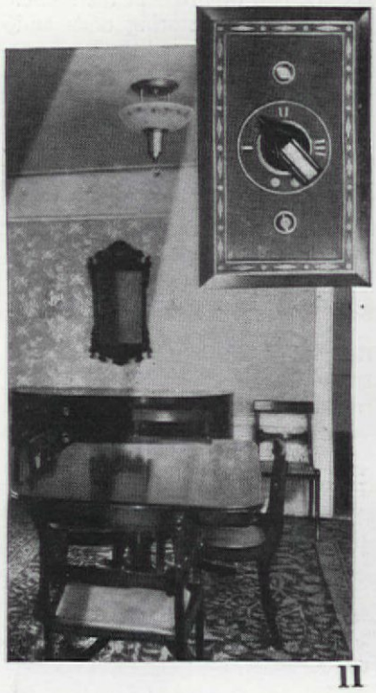
Of course if you are building a new house your storage space problem will be somewhat different from ours. We were putting idle square footage to work. You will have to decide how much brand-new room you can afford to give to such purposes. But in any case, whether you are building, rebuilding, or merely furbishing up a little, lay back your ears and tell the male of the species that you're going to have all the storage accommodations your heart desires. Then you'll have no regrets.

What's new?

[*Continued from page 58*]

tant. Or maybe your front door has no glass and you can't see who is ringing. This Doormaster solves such problems by providing an inconspicuous microphone in the door jamb. Conversation can be carried on from a hand telephone inside the house. Dictagraph Products Co., Inc.

9. These light plastic blocks are an interesting experimental building material. They can be manufactured in opaque, translucent, or transparent form, twelve inches square. They would be applied to the framework of a house to form the complete exterior and interior walls. Light would come through the transparent and translucent blocks instead of through windows. Fireproof, waterproof, made in brilliant colors. Ethocel and Styron blocks. Dow Chemical Co.



11

10. A 1940 model hot water heater which fits in with standard size kitchen cabinets. Of white enamel finish, table top height to line up with counters, it has a recessed toe space base in black enamel. 30 gallon capacity. Edison General Electric Appliance Co.

11. Have you ever thought how pleasant it would be to be able to control your household lighting as they do on a stage set? Soft lighting for rest or conversation, moderate lighting for general illumination, bright lighting for practical use. Well, a builder has adapted such a system which provides ceiling illumination controlled in this way from a wall switch. It corresponds to the three way lighting available now for table lamps. Schaefer.



OUR "CASTLE"

IS NOT FOR SALE ANY MORE

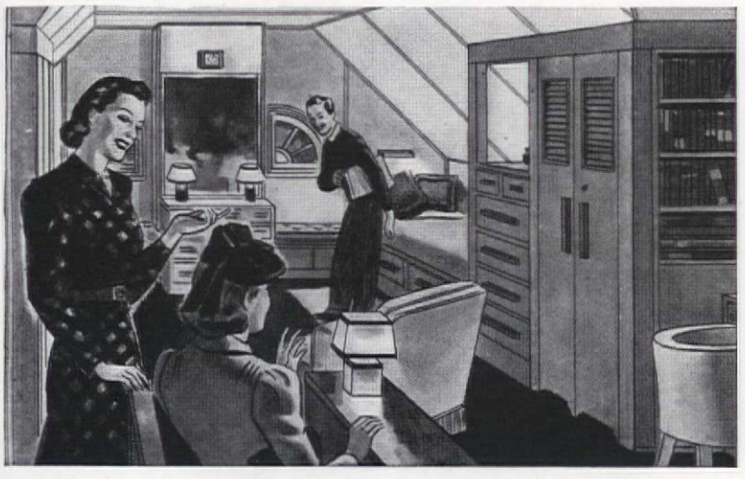
Hooray! Down comes the sign.
The old home is "saved."
It's better looking than ever.
More rooms too.
And the whole remodeling job cost so little.
Let's tell people how we did it.



The plaster walls in my old sewing-room were full of cracks, so we put Masonite Tempered Presdwood over them and grooved it with a horizontal design. My Tempered Presdwood cutting-table folds into the wall and my sewing-machine becomes a dressing table. And so the room can be turned into a delightful *guest room!*



Just look at this cozy den of Harry's . . . transformed from the old parlor, by having built-in sofa, bookshelves and private closet of Masonite Tempered Presdwood. You see, it's a very strong, all-wood board that is grainless and moisture-resisting. Ideal for remodeling, because it won't warp, chip, split or crack.



And here's the grand room we made for Harry, Jr., in the attic, by using Masonite Structural Insulation to close in previous *waste* space. Harry loves it; and *we* get the benefit of its insulating qualities. . . . Why don't you see how easily and cheaply Masonite products can help *you* fix over *your* home?



And then we turned the twins' room into a *real* nursery, by putting Masonite Tempered Presdwood right over the old walls and ceiling. We painted the walls peach and the ceiling pale blue. And we found it was easy to make the built-in furniture of Tempered Presdwood too. It can be cut or sawed to any size or shape.

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WISE FELLOW, JOHN HARVEY



Concrete home of D. M. Praytor Birmingham, Ala. Chapman-Evans Construction Co.

He says we can stay within our budget and still have a home of firesafe

CONCRETE

HE: "Our architect had a good idea when he suggested we build with *concrete*. Costs little if any more, and low upkeep and high resale value will protect our investment."

SHE: "Humph! I knew Harvey was smart the first time we met. And look what a darling design he has sketched. This will be the cutest house on the street."

HE: "Okay, Mrs. Intuition. But did he also tell you the reason why concrete homes are warm and dry in winter and cool in summer?"

SHE: "Don't be superior. I've read up on home construction and our friends have told us *plenty* about the comfort and livability of concrete homes. They make housekeeping easier, too—especially if you have strong concrete floors that can't sag or warp."

That's practically the whole story. You can enjoy the enduring beauty of firesafe, stormproof, termite-proof concrete and be *money ahead*. Any style you prefer, with a wide range of textures and colors. And concrete floors take any covering you wish.

No matter what type of home you build, be sure it has a strong foundation and first floor of concrete.

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Ask a Concrete Contractor or Concrete Products Manufacturer (see phone directory) for names of architects and builders experienced in concrete. Write us for free booklet of concrete house design ideas.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION, Dept. A3-5, 33 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, Ill.

A national organization to improve and extend the uses of concrete . . . through scientific research and engineering field work

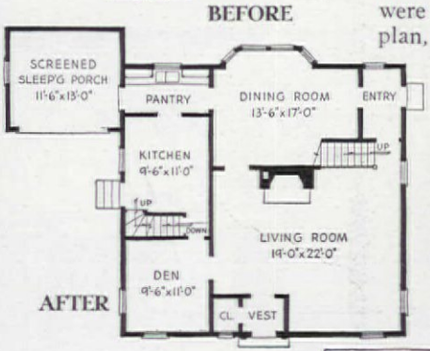
A "hopeless" house in New London, Conn.

[*Continued from page 23*]

side, the dreary front porch was ripped off and the old front of the house became just a side elevation. (Picture 3) The center windows on first and second stories of this side were filled in and

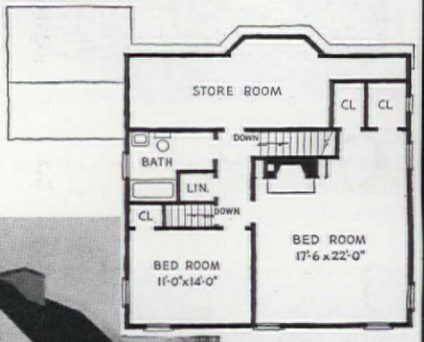


BEFORE



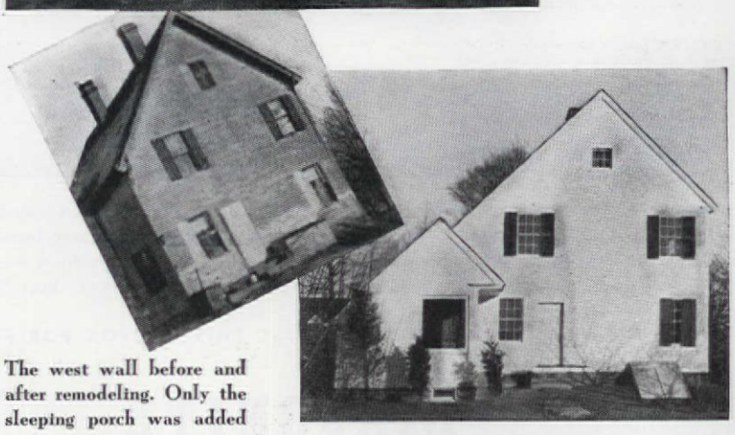
AFTER

the original front door was replaced by a window. Then the roof was brought down at the rear of the house in the manner of a New England salt box house and the





Corner shot of the remodeled house shows the new south front and side porch



The west wall before and after remodeling. Only the sleeping porch was added

first story walls of the building were extended out about six feet all across the back of the house. (Picture 4) By comparing the new and old first floor plans you can see just where the extension added a new pantry and new dining room space beyond the stairway. A door was introduced on the east side of the extension and a small square window.

No structural change was made on the west side of the house excepting new window sash and shutters, but a new sleeping porch was added at the northwest corner. The slope of its roof lines up with the roof over the rear extension. Inside the house the original entrance hall, living, and dining rooms became one large living room, with a corner nicked off for an entrance vestibule and closet. The new extension provided a new pantry, side entry, and most of the new dining room, but the den and kitchen remain the same in plan. Minor changes were made in the second story plan, the principal change being the new storage space over the extension.

This is a complete summary of the important alteration work involved; the roof remained intact, although it was extended, so did the walls, although a bay was taken off one side; the window openings are unchanged for the most part. There was really astonishingly little structural work done, although the new house presents a totally different aspect. Details to complete the job were



Guarded against Fire–*by Perforated Rocklath and Plaster*

THIS child is protected against the menace of fire — thanks to the walls and ceilings of his home. Perforated Rocklath and Plaster provide that protection. Perforated Rocklath is fireproof! Tests show that a *Perforated Rocklath partition, properly plastered, will hold fire at bay for at least one hour!*

Perforated Rocklath is an outstanding example of the application of research to home construction by the United States Gypsum Company. Take a look at Perforated Rocklath—see how we punched it full of holes to make a stronger wall! Perforated Rocklath makes the plastered surface a better surface. It does not warp, buckle or pull away from the plaster. It leaves no lath streaks.

Just as Perforated Rocklath provides more fire protection for today's homes, so do other USG building materials. For instance, we have perfected resilient plastering systems which prevent cracks due to frame movement and which greatly reduce sound transmission.

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by Red Top Insulating Wool. This wall and ceiling insulation is highly efficient! It guards health better, helps pay for itself through fuel savings. Red Top Insulating Wool may be used in both new and old homes. Ask your United States Gypsum Dealer or mail coupon below.

UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY

–where research develops better, safer building materials

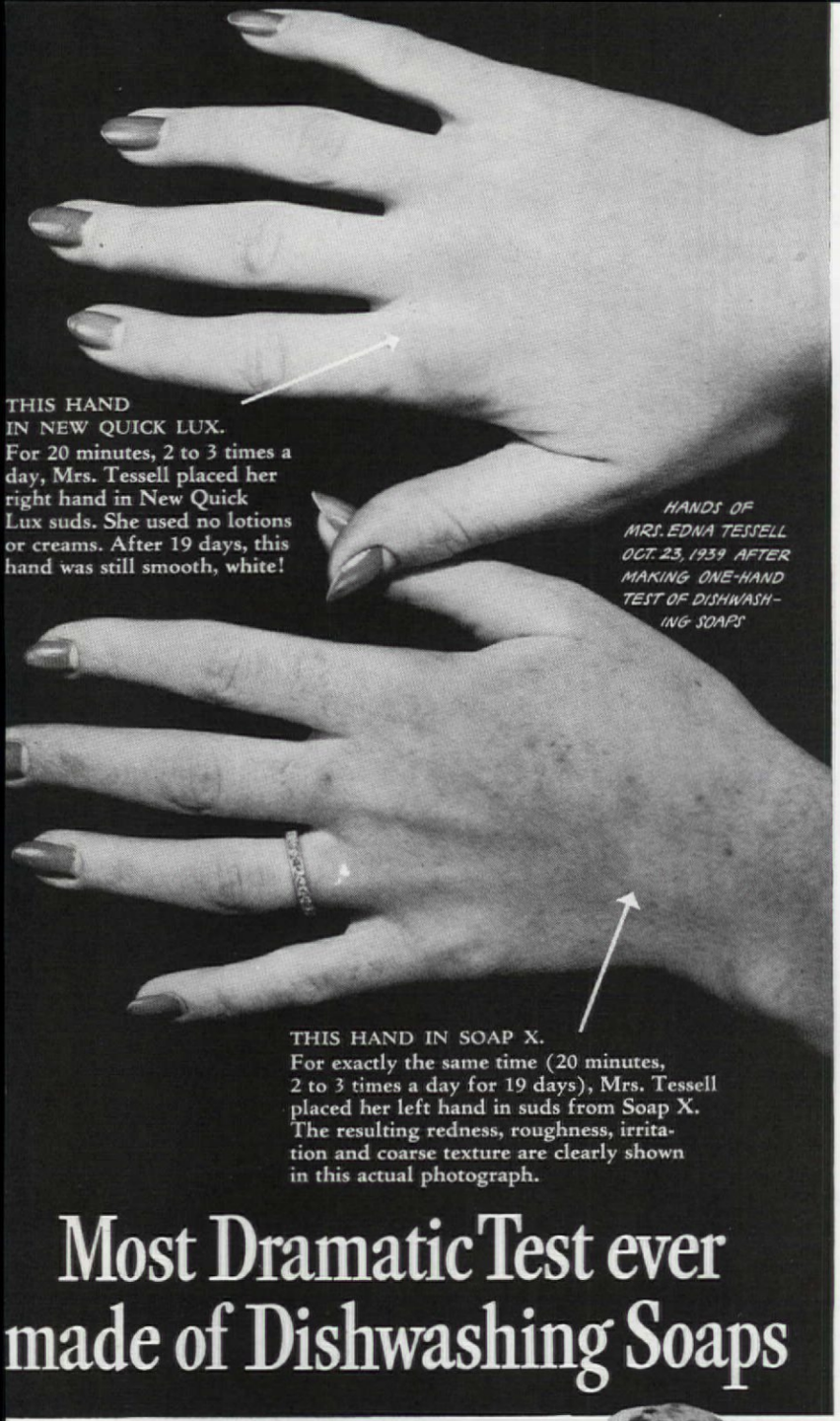
UNITED STATES GYPSUM COMPANY
300 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois
Please send me—*"How to Have the Home You Want"* ( ) *"How to Modernize and Make It Pay"* ( )
(Enclose 25c in coin or stamps for each book you want.)

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Address.....

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Most Dramatic Test ever made of Dishwashing Soaps

Hundreds of women made these tests of 5 widely sold soaps, under conditions similar to home dishwashing. These tests proved Lux kindest to hands.

New Quick LUX saves you from red, rough, housework hands

WOMEN ARE SAYING: "We thought Lux was so wonderful it couldn't be improved, but you've done it!"

Four years' research, an added ingredient costing thousands of dollars yearly bring you new, quick Lux! Marvelously kind to your hands—and amazingly fast.

So thrifty, too!

New, quick Lux goes further (gives more suds, ounce for ounce) than any of 10 other leading soaps tested.

Get gentle, new, quick Lux today—save hands!



New Quick LUX



MRS. WISTER CLARK, Indianapolis, Ind.

In the same familiar package . . . the Lux your dealer has is the New Quick LUX

the substitution of a new simple Colonial cornice around the roof, replacing the old la-di-da one, the installation of a fireplace and the reconstruction of the chimney in the center of the house. New wood shingles and siding were installed on roof and walls wherever necessary and the old gimcrack gable which was the original front of the house abandoned its siding, shingle and false timber work facing for simple wood siding. Altogether we think the architects deserve a medal for rescue work in saving this house from characterless, colorless nonentity and making it into a pleasant, cheerful, and completely comfortable home.

Case I . . . Connecticut

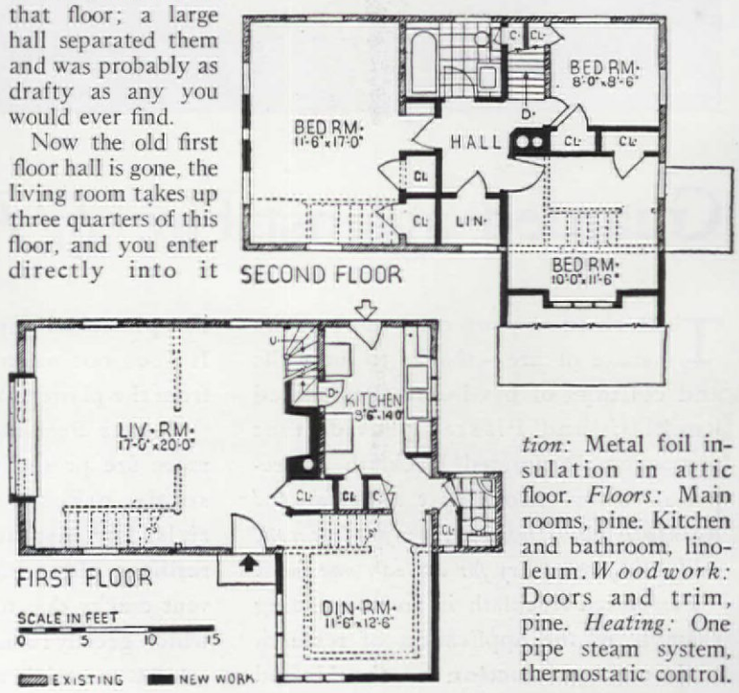
[*Continued from page 20*]

so was the dining room. The hall was spacious enough, almost as large as the living room but it was pretty useless; it was necessary to walk through the living room to get to the main stairway. Another stairway led up to the back bedroom which was one of two bedrooms on that floor; a large hall separated them and was probably as drafty as any you would ever find.

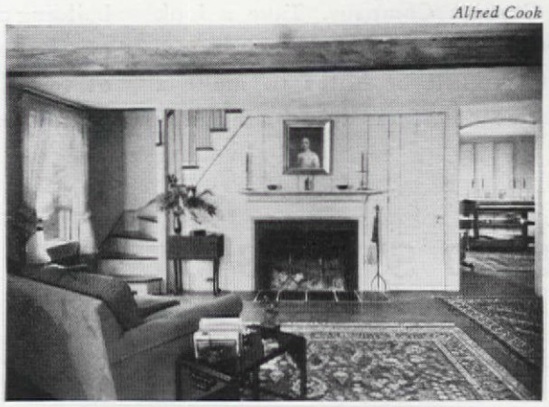
Now the old first floor hall is gone, the living room takes up three quarters of this floor, and you enter directly into it through a wood-paneled door and white Colonial doorway on the garden side. Only the service door in the kitchen opens onto the road now. A wide cheerful-faced bay window stretches across the front wall of the living room where there used to be a covered porch. The windows in the master bedroom overhead have been separated and given proper shutters. A handsome new Colonial fireplace is in the center of the wall facing the living room bay window and a stair climbs up around it in the best Colonial tradition. This whole fireplace wall is sheathed in vertical wood boarding painted white. The fireplace chimney is new, replacing the old flimsy one. The dining room is of adequate size now, has good wall space for furniture, and is brightly lighted by the decorative window corner overlooking the garden. New plumbing, heating, and kitchen equipment contribute greatly.

Building Data

New interior walls: Rock lath and plaster. *Roof:* Wood shingles. *Windows:* Casement sash. *Insulation:* Metal foil insulation in attic floor. *Floors:* Main rooms, pine. Kitchen and bathroom, linoleum. *Woodwork:* Doors and trim, pine. *Heating:* One pipe steam system, thermostatic control.

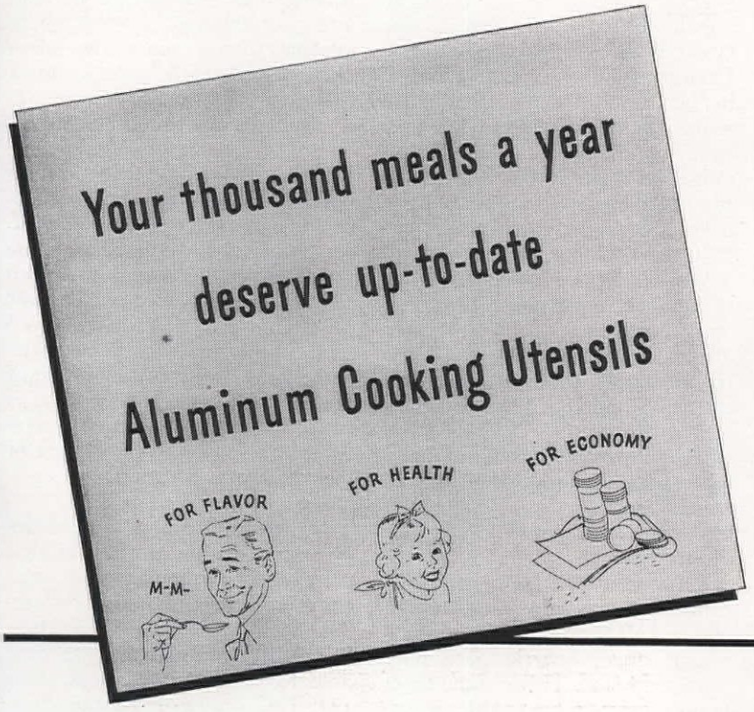


Alfred Cook



The living room, now pleasantly spacious, is entered from the garden side of the house





Wrong sizes, wrong shapes, wrong this and wrong that! Inefficient cooking utensils cost you money every meal.

Modern Wear-Ever gives you all the advantages of Aluminum . . . in designs that make you say *They've thought of everything.*

Friendly-to-food Aluminum helps preserve food values and natural food flavors. Heat spreads rapidly to all parts of the utensil. Foods are cooked evenly, beautifully. Aluminum is *very* kind to your fuel bill. These are some of the reasons why seven out of eight women use Aluminum.

If you do not know where to buy Wear-Ever, write The Aluminum Cooking Utensil Company, 1603 Wear-Ever Building, New Kensington, Pennsylvania.

LOOK FOR THE WEAR-EVER TRADEMARK WHEN YOU BUY

Aluminum at its Best: WEAR-EVER ALUMINUM TRADE MARK REG. U.S. PAT OFF. "Wear-Ever"

Don't Cry Over Spilt Jam



Oh Dear, I've ruined your beautiful new wallpaper!



Don't worry—we'll sponge it right off...

But it's jam! Surely you can't wash *that* off this beautiful paper!

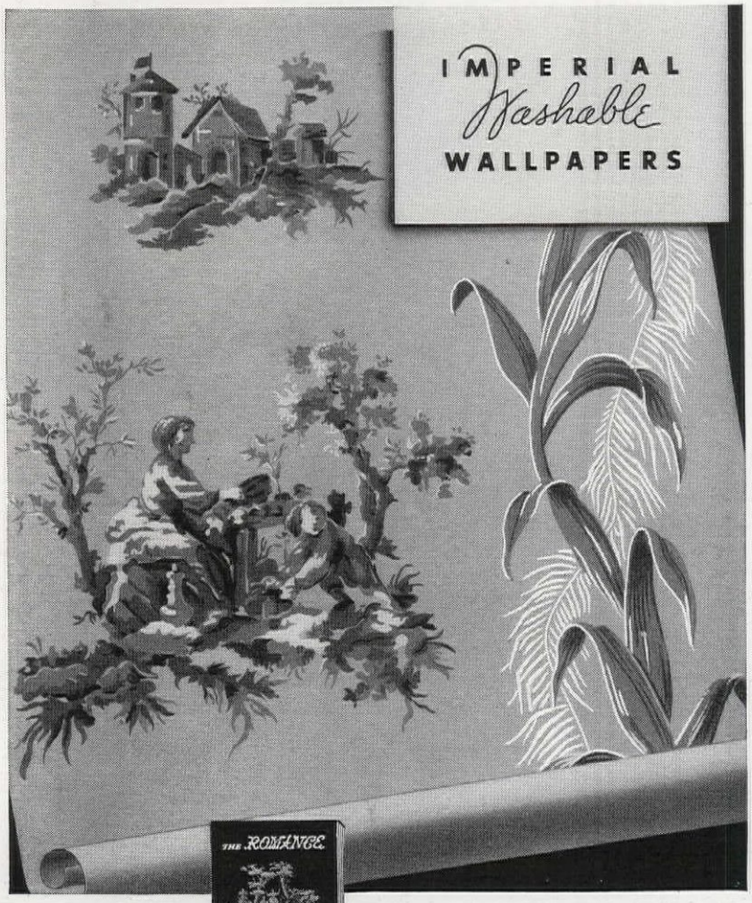


Oh yes. It's Imperial . . . guaranteed washable and fast to light. It's perfectly marvelous the way it cleans.

• • •

Leading in Style, Color, and Guaranteed Washability!

Be proud of your home and sure of its beauty! Remember that much of this beauty depends on the walls because *⅔ of your home is wall space.* So choose the finest decoration, Imperial! Hundreds of gorgeous new patterns are now definitely inexpensive. And they *save you money* because they last longer . . . *every one is guaranteed* washable and fast to light! Be sure to ask your decorator or paperhanger for genuine Imperial papers, identified in sample books by the famous silver label.



Dull Walls... Bright Ideas?

How to brighten, lighten, and beautify problem rooms . . . and dozens of other decorating ideas, told in Jean McLain's book. (Send 10¢ to cover mailing costs.) Use coupon for her free individual advice. She will send you samples, and tell you where to buy Imperial *Washable* Wallpapers for your home.

Address: JEAN McLAIN, Dept. A-25,
Imperial Paper and Color Corporation,
Glens Falls, New York

Give this information for every room

Type of Room _____ _____
Size (Dimensions) _____ _____
Exposure _____ _____
Type of Furniture _____ _____
Color Scheme Preferred _____ _____

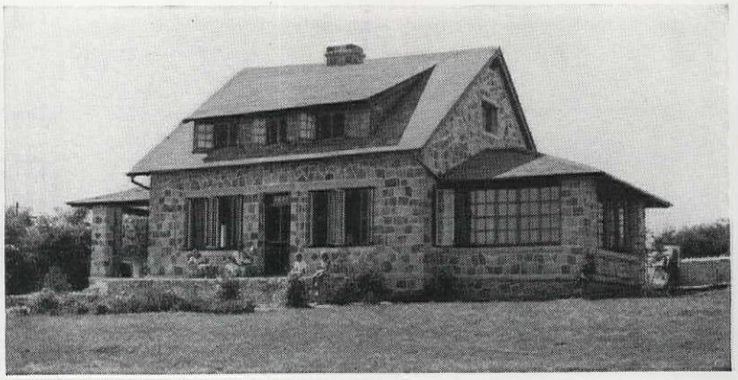
☐ **Please also send me your book, "The Romance of Modern Decoration," for which I enclose 10¢.**

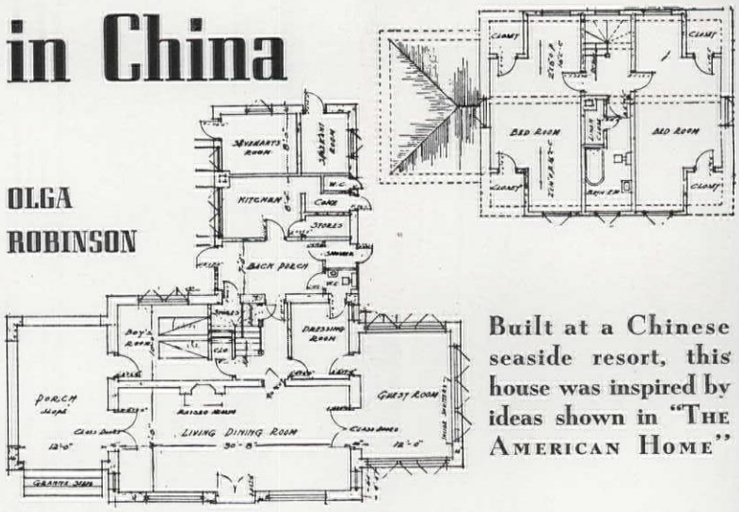
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FRANCHISED DISTRIBUTORS, DEALERS AND REGISTERED CRAFTSMEN EVERYWHERE

An American Home in China





Built at a Chinese seaside resort, this house was inspired by ideas shown in "The American Home"

OLGA ROBINSON

Our family, with three or four hundred other American, British, German, French and Scandinavian families who live in China, had been coming for many years to this seashore resort in North China just inside the Great Wall as it marches into the Pacific at Shanhaikuan. Finally, in the fall of 1936, we decided to build a summer home. A few lots were available in the section of Peitaiho where Americans own most of the houses, and we bought a very desirable three mou (one half acre), facing the sea.

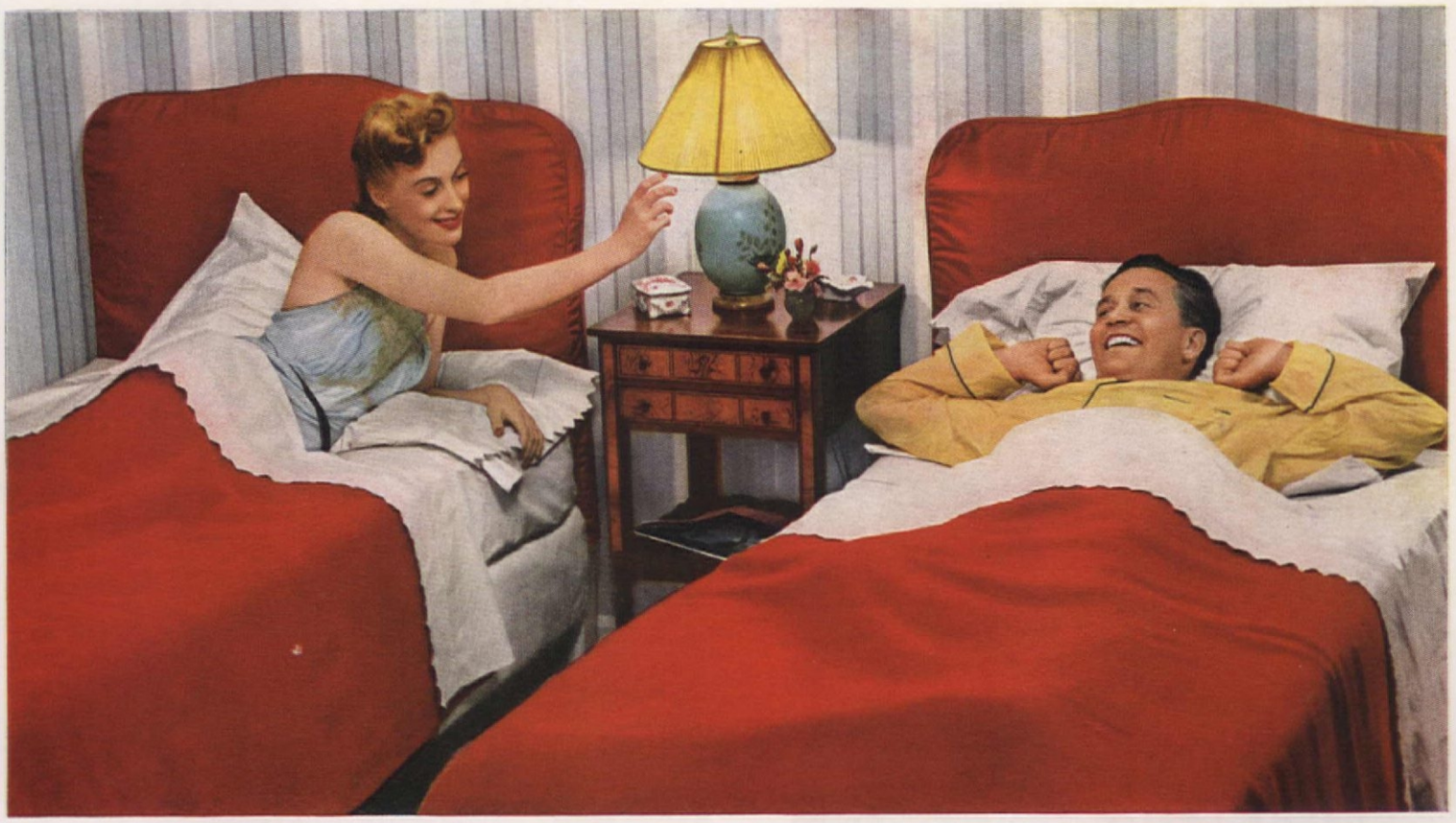
We decided on a western type of house because really beautiful and convenient Chinese ones are much more expensive. They require larger timbers to support the heavy red roof tiles, and then too you lose the advantages of a second story. The photographs show what we got for $2,000 in American money, including the lot, stone wall, and all the furnishings for the place.

I suppose the house may be called a modified Colonial, one and a half stories. It is built of native stone, quarried one mile from the house. There is one large living-dining room, with inside walls of the unplastered rock of the house, and a red tile floor. A glassed-in porch, dressing room, and toilet comprise a guest suite. Back of the living room is a small boy's room, with double-decker bed. Upstairs two family bedrooms and a bath are floored with Oregon pine; the walls simply kalsomined over plaster. The service wing is patterned after an American two-car garage, divided into screened-in work porch, kitchen, shower room, two servants' rooms with toilet, and a fuel room. Downstairs floors are of cement, some tinted bright red, others left the natural gray color.

Under the floor of the service porch we built two cisterns to catch rain water from the roof. An American mail-order house pump raises the water into two old tar barrels placed on the floor joists in the attic. An approved septic tank in a corner at the rear of the property takes care of sewage adequately. The house is entirely screened with bronze American screening, and much of the hardware is American.

For the furnishings and many inside details of the Peitaiho cottage we pored over copy after copy of The American Home. The view of interior shows how faithfully our local carpenter was able to follow pictures cut from 1936-1937 copies of the magazine. I believe the methods we used to get something different in the way of furniture and accessories for this American home at a Chinese seashore resort are really unique.

In winter we live in a small city



What heavenly comfort awaits you when you snuggle into bed on this *deep* Beautyrest mattress! You lie so reposed...so gloriously relaxed...you can actually feel it *cradle* every tired inch of you. How quickly you drowse off...to awaken fresh as a daisy, after a night of sound slumber!

DEEPEST BEAUTYREST EVER MADE!

Luxurious Comfort guaranteed for twice as long!





Heart of New Beautyrest's "luxury comfort!" Beautyrest has 837 springs—each in a cloth pocket. The springs are NOT tied together by wire as in most other mattresses. Instead, each spring is *separated* from the other. Each yields *independently*. No matter how you lie...your hips, your back, your feet receive exactly the right "give."

Far less turning! Because Beautyrest keeps its shape, doesn't "lump up"...you don't have to turn it nearly as often. After the felt padding has leveled, you need turn it only 4 or 5 times a year.

Edges that don't sag! Beautyrest has patented sag-proof edges...bringing mid-mattress comfort to the very edges of the bed.

Stays sanitary inside! Every Beautyrest mattress has 8 *real* ventilators, not "false" ones. So Beautyrest really "breathes"...stays fresh inside!



Lasts 3 times longer! Ten different types of mattress were battered by a 200-lb. Torture Machine at the United States Testing Co., Inc., Hoboken, N. J. The New Beautyrest was still in good sleeping condition after 489,000 poundings. No other mattress stood up even one third as long. That's why Beautyrest is guaranteed for 10 years' service—although under normal use, it should last far longer!

LUXURY COMFORT FOR A PENNY A NIGHT WITH THE NEW DEEPER BEAUTYREST

Beautyrest Box Spring, for use with New Beautyrest Mattress, is $39.50. Or get the Ace Coil Spring at $19.75.

SIMMONS COMPANY

Chicago • New York • San Francisco • Atlanta



Why Beautyrest's "luxury comfort" really costs less! Your New Beautyrest costs $39.50 (easy time payments, of course). This price comes down to about a penny a night, based on our 10-year guarantee.

You have seen how Beautyrest lasted 3 times longer than other mattresses under the terrific beating given them in tests. If Beautyrest lasts 3 times longer in a laboratory, shouldn't it *last longer in your home, too*...particularly than "cheaper" mattresses? Shouldn't it give you "luxury comfort" longer? Shouldn't it actually cost you less over the years? See the New, Deeper Beautyrest today!

IMPORTANT: If you are shown other mattresses supposed to be "just as good" as Beautyrest, remember that no other mattress in the world gives you ALL the advantages of Beautyrest. Beautyrest is made only by the Simmons Co. So insist upon seeing this label on the next mattress you buy.





Charming rooms begin on the floor, the easy Bigelow way

Let the girl in our picture show you how to go about it! She asked for her free copy of "Color Clues to Home Beauty", which gave her a lot of good ideas on colors and room schemes.

Then, from 10 smart Bigelow Basic Colors in rugs and carpets, she chose four, any one of which will harmonize with her drapery and upholstery fabrics.

That's the easy Bigelow way! . . . smart patterns in colors that have been pre-harmonized with the popular colors in other homefurnishings . . . Axminster, Velvet and Wilton weaves in a wide range of prices to fit every budget. Choose *your* Bigelow rug today at your favorite department or furniture store!

BIGELOW BASIC COLORS

TURQUOISE	RED
GREEN	ROSE
BLUE	PEACH
BROWN	TAUPE
BURGUNDY	BEIGE

These basic color groups include many tones and shades in solid colors, two-tones and figured rugs and carpets.

RUGS & CARPETS BY

RUGS & CARPETS BY BIGELOW WEAVERS

BIGELOW WEAVERS

FREE! Ask for "Color Clues" at any department or furniture store that features the Bigelow label. Or write to Bigelow Weavers, Dept. 34 A, 140 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

Copyright 1940, Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co., Inc.

just thirteen miles east of Peiping. Because we are "country" we do not have metropolitan carpenters and upholsterers. As we found attractive and suitable pictures of chairs and tables and beds in THE AMERICAN HOME, we carefully cut them out, saving them until the day when we decided which ones to use. Then we called in the local carpenter. My husband, enticed away from his medical records and reports in the study, came in to help with the all-important matter of measurements. We decided to make all the furniture of "luan" wood, or Philippine mahogany, which more nearly resembles American pine than any other wood in China.

The Welsh dresser, all the chairs, the delightful three-legged milk stools with handles, the Swedish settle, and the refectory table, not to speak of desk, beds, dressers, and occasional tables, are all from this beautiful wood. The old carpenter was sure he could copy the pictures faithfully and he did! We remember the thrill which was ours the day we went in through the big city gate to the workshop in his own home courtyard and shared with his wife and daughter-in-law and many small grandchildren the delight in the fine workmanship of the first pieces.

Our next question to ourselves was, "How do we get our furniture the three hundred miles to Peitaiho without ruinous freight charges?" So we went off to see the railroad people and found that knocked-down furniture, unfinished, counts as lumber. Presto! all our beautiful luan furniture was never put together at all, but packed in coarse matting and burlap and sent off to the beach, chaperoned by the carpenter himself. There he spent four weeks putting the pieces together and finishing them with filler, fine linseed oil, and wax. A few pieces were given one coat of best English varnish and then waxed. The result has met with the astonished approbation of our friends.

The crude iron candlesticks and iron lamp or vase holders on the stone walls of the living-dining room were copied by a surprised dealer in second-hand scrapiron in our city. I had long been intrigued by the bits of old iron in his shop and persuaded him that he could produce these iron pieces, which he did at a cost of about $1.50 for six pieces!

Two lovely old brass bowls were rescued from a brass shop where they were used to hold nails and odd bits of hardware. Simple paper lampshades were made by our local painter, of ordinary heavy newsprint paper, oiled, with crude blue and orange bands painted around the bottom. Since we have no electricity in our cottage, friends gave me their old kerosene lamps, imported many years ago from the United States. These were shorn of extra "gingerbread" and, with the cheap shades, are most attractive. A problem easily solved was that of thick candles which would neither smell nor smoke and would fit the large Mexican-type candlesticks. A neighboring Buddhist temple made their own tapers for special occasions, I discovered, so I was able to have fat candles to fit made at a time when the monks were dipping large ones for their own altar candlesticks. These we have used with great satisfaction all through the summer.

The hooked rug on the pinkish red tile floor of the main room was made after an AMERICAN HOME design by girls and women working at a famine relief project in an interior city of Shantung, where we lived before 1932.



On the walls of the three family bedrooms are Polish and Swedish posters, bought by a friend in New York at an address I found in THE AMERICAN HOME. The gay color notes in the posters are repeated in spreads and curtains.

We have, during this first summer, shared our AMERICAN HOME home with friends of many nationalities: Chinese, Swedish, Norwegian, German, Italian, Dutch, and Japanese. We want this to be a friendly American home for our friends and our children's friends. The house itself, with its sunny, cheerful rooms and, for China, its unique interior furnishings and exterior appearance, helps in this aim, we believe.

Yes, darling, it's a genuine Winter MUSETTE



The MUSETTE, America's most talked about and copied piano is available in 12 charming and authentic Period Models richly cased in beautifully figured and finished veneers. Shown above is the Style 36 MUSETTE Console, available in genuine Mahogany, Fancy Butt Walnut or Ebonized. MUSETTES are priced FOB New York from $295 and may be purchased on Deferred Payment Plan.

YOU can be proud to own a Winter MUSETTE. Here is an instrument that belongs to this present day and age. It offers decorative and musical advantages unheard of but a few short years ago. Its smart and charming lines . . . the pure beauty of its tone . . . its responsive action . . . all combine to make this piano unique. And there's *authority* in MUSETTE's position of leadership. It was MUSETTE, introduced nearly five years ago, which launched the great re-styling movement which has swept the modern console into nation-wide popularity. Today no name in the industry says quality and value with greater conviction than Winter & Company. There's such a thing as progress you know — and the MUSETTE typifies advances in the art of piano styling and craftsmanship which have already made Winter & Company America's largest piano manufacturer.

WINTER & COMPANY
ESTABLISHED 1899
America's Largest Piano Manufacturer
NEW YORK CITY

Look for this oval seal. It identifies the genuine MUSETTE.

Musette
TRADE MARK

WINTER & COMPANY Dept. A-30
863 East 141st St., New York City
Send me your new CATALOG-AND-STYLE-GUIDE with full page photographs of each of the Period Model MUSETTES in appropriate room settings.
Name.....
Street.....
City..... State.....









It's in the BAG!



At left — Exquisite beaded bag, from France, late eighteenth century. Center, Beadwork in scenic design, early 19th century. Above, English reticule, 18th century

Photographs courtesy of The Metropolitan Museum of Art

MAUD PASTOR

THE history of the handbag is a fascinating one. It dates back to those far-away times when money was as yet unknown; large bags merely served to carry various articles, and all necessities of life were effected by barter.

When an increasing trade rendered this method inconvenient it was replaced by a universally recognized and portable medium. Hides of animals were cut into disks and stamped, but later superseded by metals of varying form and weight which were called *pecunia* (coin). Little boxes of wood, ivory, or metal were at first used to carry this new money, but were soon followed by receptacles somewhat similar to the modern purse, especially the pouch type. Mercury, the god of commerce, has always been represented carrying at his side a leather pouch drawn with cord. Juvenal, the Roman poet and satirist of the first century mentions money bags of soft leather, and Plutarch describes them as having been closed with strings. Such bags were called *crumena* or *sacculus;* they were made of pigs' ears, preferably sows' ears, and from this source doubtless originates the well-known quotation: "You cannot make, my Lord, I fear, a velvet purse of a sow's ear." The more delicate purses, incidentally were made of mole-skin.

Both Greeks and Romans fashioned network into large bags called *reticulum* from which the word "reticule" is derived, and Tacitus tells us that the finer network was made into purses, called *bursa* (latin) or *byrsa* (greek), meaning hide or skin. Here again we have the popular association with cattle and, incidentally, the origin of our own word "purse."

The Saxons called these bags *bygirdlum* after the fashion in which they were attached to the belt (girdle, German Gurtel). The word "purse" was

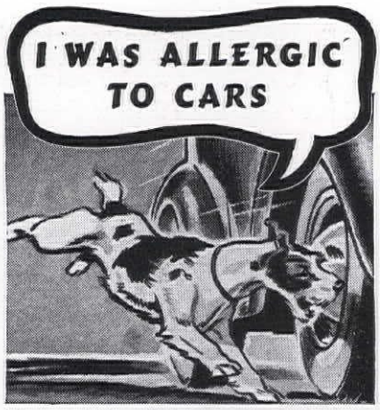
[*Please turn to page 86*]



White damask chatelaine bag, below; Venetian origin, 19th century

Above, French 19th century bag, embroidered knit green silk. Center, Gay 'Nineties chatelaine bag, steel beads, from author's collection

Canvas purse deftly embroidered with metal and silk threads with corded edge; English, 17th century



I knew what would happen when I got home, but a car made me see red. I might not be here today if the Mistress hadn't picked up a free copy of the new Sergeant's DOG BOOK! The BOOK told her why I chased them and how to stop me.



That DOG BOOK is required reading for any dog's Family. It's full of expert information on feeding, training and how to tell and treat dog ailments. A swell article by Albert Payson Terhune too! It's free at drug and pet stores — or with this coupon.

Sergeant's

DOG MEDICINES

FREE

Polk Miller Products Corp.
Dept. 13-C, Richmond, Va.

Please send a free Sergeant's DOG BOOK to:

Name_____

Address_____

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HOW TO HAVE FUN and BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME!



ALL FOR ONLY 25c!

NEW DRAPERY BOOK AND 30 SAMPLES NEW MATERIALS only 25c!

To acquaint you with the low-direct-from-the-mill prices and beauty, texture, and design of Itasca weaves we will send 30 samples of latest materials and copy of new 1940 Modern Homemakers Book both for only 25c. Book contains dozens of ideas for making beautiful draperies, slip covers, bedspreads, luncheon sets, etc. 97 illustrations. Book and samples will enable you to—

SAVE ½ OR MORE ON BEAUTIFUL NEW FABRICS

—such as Ratines, Stripes, Osnaburgs, Crashes, and Basket Weaves. Buy direct from the mill and save 50% or more on the cost of materials. Send just 25c today for your Homemakers Book and 30 samples.

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

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LAUNDRY BAG FREE WITH THIS OFFER!

1 Itasca crash laundry bag, attractively hand printed in novel design, included free with this offer. It's different! Send today!



The **JENNY LIND** *Chest*

In beauty of authentic design, sturdy construction and enduring finish the famous Wheeler recreations equal or surpass the original craftsmanship. Our large catalog fully illustrating four poster beds, chests, dressers, and vanities in mahogany, walnut, cherry and maple sent for 30 cents.

M. M. & A. J. WHEELER CO.

So. Second St. Nashville, Tennessee

Family of 5—salary $85 a month—and a home of our own!

[*Continued from page 18*]

bolt" were at that time entirely absent from my vocabulary.)

The children were still sleeping outdoors when November came, and while it was not cold, the dampness made it impossible to keep the bedding dry. So we ordered an additional $30 worth of material from a general store in town and actually finished the first room—the sunny-colored little bedroom over the kitchen. We had to climb stairs that were really ladderlike to reach it, but it was a darling golden bandbox of a room. It goes without saying that we did all our own painting and papering. I have made *gallons* of paste in my old battered dishpan, and I have had many an ache from painting baseboards. But I might as well be sore from painting my own house as from golf. . . . We moved the children into the new room on Thanksgiving Day.

It was not until the next June that we could tear down the shack and begin living in the new kitchen. To do all the work ourselves on a less-than-half-time basis; to wait until the last batch of material is paid for before we can order more and go on is discouragingly slow at times. But every joist upraised, every board in place, every nail driven, brings us one step nearer—Home!

Then we began work on the main part of the house. We made three parallel concrete supporting walls, and a concrete foundation for chimney and fireplace. (We can't hope to build the fireplace for several years, but we put in the foundation for it. By the same token we are wiring for electricity as we go.)

Then came the subfloor, and in November the studding began to rise. How happy we were to see the whole house take form! Then we built the big living room, with space over it prepared for the children's playroom. There's no denying, it has been slow, hard work. But suppose we never finish off any more than this? I'll still be better off than our economic status would seem to make possible, for we have—a large, light, airy kitchen, convenient to work in, cheerful and beautiful; a large (13½′ x 24½′) living room, comfortable and light, if rustic in effect; two bedrooms—one a large playroom for the children; spacious grounds, and privacy!

One might protest that not every man could do his own building. I can only answer that

SING WHILE YOU CLEAN *

with quick, easy

OLD DUTCH CLEANSER



*That's how you'll feel when you have Old Dutch Cleanser to help you. With a song in your heart, you'll achieve a sparkle in your home! For Old Dutch makes things shine without hard rubbing. Its ONE-TWO CLEANING ACTION—1, *cuts grease quickly;* 2, *makes all your cleaning easier.*

See with what speed and ease Old Dutch leaves pots and pans, surfaces, floors, and porcelain spotlessly clean. There's no scratching. For Old Dutch is made with Seismotite. Order Old Dutch Cleanser today.

WM. A. ROGERS PURE SILVERPLATE

Lovely Hollow Handle

Dessert Server

Made and guaranteed by Oneida, Ltd.

$2.50 Value FOR ONLY 50¢ [75c in Canada] and the windmill pictures from 3 Old Dutch labels

This beautiful piece of silverware is perfect for the correct serving of cakes, pies, brick ice cream and salads. You'll be delighted with the rich "Croydon" pattern, the handsome hollow handle and the sparkling Mirror Stainless Steel blade. Ideal for gifts.



The beautiful "Croydon" pattern harmonizes with other silverware patterns.

The Hollow Handle is a mark of quality silverware. It is plated with pure silver.

Actual size 9⅝" long

The firm blade of flashing Mirror Stainless Steel slices and lifts dessert servings.

Send for this Server today Use coupon

Order as many of these pure silverplate Dessert Servers as you wish. Each Server requires only 50c [75c in Canada] and *windmill pictures* from 3 Old Dutch labels. [Complete labels not required.]

Old Dutch Cleanser, Dept. PS-725, Chicago, Ill.

I am enclosing____ *windmill pictures* from Old Dutch labels and____c for which please send me____ Servers.

*Name*_____

*Address*_____

This offer good only in U.S. and Canada while present supply lasts



HOW could Lou confess that the cake she made was the one everybody poked fun at?

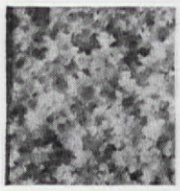
If only she had realized the *importance* of choosing her baking powder. Any woman can be more certain of baking success *every time* with dependable Royal.

You see Royal, made with Cream of Tartar, has a *special* "steady action" that is different from most baking powders. Royal begins its work the moment it is stirred in the batter. Thus the expansion of the batter is *continuous and even.* That is why Royal cakes are fine-grained...light...fluffy. Why they keep their delicious moistness and flavor longer.

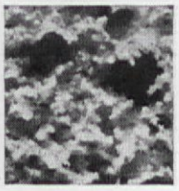
Many baking powders seem to have an *explosive, uneven action.* A greater part of the expansion is delayed until the cake is in the oven, and rising is often over-rapid. It may blow the batter full of large holes. Then the cake will be coarse...dry...crumbly.

Look at these actual photographs of cake, magnified, and see the difference in results:

STEADY BAKING POWDER ACTION



UNEVEN BAKING POWDER ACTION



Cheap baking insurance – Royal costs only about 1¢ per baking. The rest of your ingredients cost 30 to 40 times that much. Pure Cream of Tartar makes Royal cost more per can—but the difference *per baking* between Royal and ordinary baking powders is only a *fraction of a cent!*

Remember, Royal is the *only* nationally distributed baking powder made with wholesome Cream of Tartar—a product of fresh, luscious grapes. Cream of Tartar leaves no acrid "baking powder taste." So ask your grocer for ROYAL. Use it whenever you bake. You'll agree it's well worth the difference in price.



ROYAL COOK BOOK FREE

If you bake at home, you should have a copy of the Royal Cook Book which tells you how to make delicious cakes, biscuits, muffins, pies, puddings and main dishes. Send your name and address to Royal Baking Powder, 691 Washington St., New York City. Dept. 93.

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my husband is far from being a master carpenter. He has to study books and plans and ask questions on many a point. And of course we have made mistakes. One carpenter-friend said to him of the way he planned the big roof: "Well, Boy, I'll have to admit that you finally got there, but you got there the way a crayfish would—backwards!"

It is surprising, also, the amount of help that is forthcoming when one begins a project of this kind. One friend who has had an architectural course worked over our plans. Another friend who *is* a master carpenter has been most generous with advice and practical help. One man trades a day's work for the use of our home-made tractor; another will build the chimney for the use of our (also home-made) buzz saw.

The cost of building lies largely in the labor and the hauling. We eliminate the first by doing it ourselves. We "Dodge" the second with our ancient truck—value $12 in any market.

There are even distinct advantages of doing your own work. You feel free to stand in front of that extra window in your kitchen and defy your husband to close it up "so as to have a good smooth wall for cupboards," while if you were paying a high-powered builder, you might be bullied into thinking that he knew what you wanted better than you actually did yourself.

THE three things I was determined on were plenty of light, for we have many gray days and I have lived in many dismal places; and plenty of *red,* just to give a fillip to existence—and to have a kitchen that didn't look just like everybody else's kitchen.

So I chose a wallpaper that is pure white, sprinkled all over with red-and-black and silver stars. This paper called for white paint, and as there is little to soil even white paint out here, white paint it is. I had to cover the floor for less than $4. At that price I couldn't find any combination of red and black that I liked, so I had to take a linoleum rug that was jade green, cream and only touched with bits of red. That particular green, however, proved to be the exact complement to the red of the stars, and when the border and baseboards were painted the same jade green, the whole effect was pleasanter than I had ever dreamed of.

I wanted the windows to have a finished appearance without curtains to shut out a ray of light, so I cut scalloped valances and side pieces from scarlet oilcoth, and bound them with black tape. Then I wanted white blinds—but by this time I had no more money! Grandma came to the rescue at once. "We never had blinds when I was a child," she said briskly. "I'll show you what to do." Forthwith she took some old white cotton goods, sewed it into squares just the size of the windows, made casings about 4 inches from the sides, ran red tape through the casings, starched all heavily, tacked them across the tops of the windows, pulled up the tapes—and lo!—a smart swag effect, adjustable to any height and lending an unbelievable "air" to the room.

All the working surfaces, including the dining table, which must do heavy duty as an all-purpose table as well, are covered with linoleum remnants in black, red and cream. I have worked on everything from scarred wood to shining porcelain, and I prefer linoleum. It is colorful, clean, quiet, easy on the dishes, and is inexpensive enough to be changed when necessary.

A friend who has watched the kitchen grow, said finally, "Well, Helen, when you bought that wild star-spangled wallpaper I thought your kitchen was going to look like a lunatic asylum, but now it's all done I must admit I never saw a kitchen as pretty as this one. It—it kind of seems to say 'Come on in and sit down.'"

I don't have all the cabinetwork I should like as yet. And of course I should be very happy to put down inlaid linoleum instead of a bargain linoleum rug. But I wouldn't have those things in any sort of place we could rent in town, either—nor any chance to improve bit by bit. What if it does take us three, five—even eight years to finish our home? It will be *ours* when it is done, and there won't be any mortgage hanging over our heads.

P. S. January, 1940: Our living room and new bedroom unit is completely finished now, adding $200 to the total cost of the house.

Building Cost

First Unit—kitchen and bedroom

Rough, common and finished lumber	$145.00
Nails	4.00
Felt paper, wallpaper, paint, linoleum	30.00
Wiring	5.00
Professional labor	20.00
	$204.00

Second Unit—main part of house

Masonry	$73.70
Rough lumber	79.76
Nails	12.90
Finishing lumber	72.00
Common lumber	24.18
Windows and hardware	35.50
Wiring materials	20.00
Professional labor	8.00
	$326.04
TOTAL	$530.04





Virginia Ham à la Brer Rabbit:

Cook a whole ham—boiling or baking, according to your usual method. When done, remove skin. Stud with whole cloves and cover with 1½ cups Brer Rabbit Molasses. Sprinkle with fine bread crumbs. Place ham in open baking pan; add one glass sherry wine. Bake in hot oven (450° F.) 45 to 60 minutes, basting frequently. When almost done, stud with peanut halves. If sauce cooks down too thick, add water as necessary.

PINK and tender slices of ham never had a more perfect companion than Brer Rabbit's grand, rich sauce. But its special goodness largely depends on your molasses.

Pure New Orleans molasses—that's what you need. Molasses with real, old-plantation flavor! Be sure to ask for Brer Rabbit Molasses, made from freshly crushed Louisiana sugar cane.

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YOU can obtain additional cellophane envelopes for your Menu Maker. They cost 50c for 50 or $1.00 for 100. Write to the AMERICAN HOME, 251 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y.

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EXTRA VITAMIN D NEEDED NOW to Combat RICKETS and TOOTH DECAY

The effect of winter's dull, sun-poor days that rickets is most prevalent now, and tooth decay is common. Both result from lack of Vitamin D. *Extra "sunshine" Vitamin D is needed NOW!*

Serve daily Vitamin D milks, foods, and rely on Vitamin D pharmaceuticals recommended by physicians. Vitamin D is indispensable for converting calcium and phosphorus obtained from foods, into bone and tooth structure.

Milks, foods, medicinals licensed by the Foundation are reliable, inexpensive *provide needed protection.* Licensed products are entitled to display this Seal—are periodically tested. WRITE FOR LITERATURE. Look for the Seal or other reference to Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, Madison, Wisconsin, and

Buy With Confidence!

Breakfast—the night before!

[*Continued from page 53*]

ony of breakfast routine comes with sudden changes of weather. The phenomenon of going to bed in warm weather and waking up with a light snow falling presents a real treat in some households. A lady who has a hypersensitive feeling for a warm to cold weather change makes a concoction of bread, spice, eggs, milk, salt, and soda, which she calls bread cakes. The firm batter is placed on a griddle, which should not be too hot, and baked slowly. Butter and hot fruit syrup always accompany the cakes. We have no recipe for this so we suggest you have a hot coffee cake such as our New York coffee cake or popovers. Bacon, broiled until it is just past the limp stage and a uniform golden brown, orange juice, and fragrant steaming coffee complete the meal.

If you have difficulty singing before breakfast, or even in being pleasant, try a cook-while-you-sleep-meal. Modern devices are plentiful to aid the busy homemaker in sending the family to work and school on time, well fed, and happy. No morning cooking is necessary on the part of the cook if she uses equipment which is now available. Electric and gas ranges with time controls do all sorts of culinary wonders in the early morning hours.

Here are some short-cuts to early morning meals:

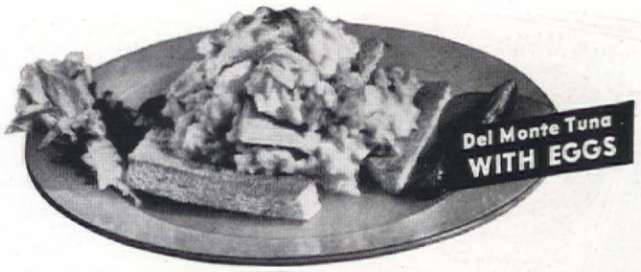
1. Dried fruits may be soaked briefly and then cooked in the soaking water the night before while getting dinner.

2. If you have a fully automatic coffee maker (one on which the heat is turned off to low when the coffee is made) and if you have an electric range, connect coffeemaker to the outlet controlled by the timer the night before. Of course to use the timer, it must be less than a twelve hour period. And remember that you will lose some flavor if you make the coffee the night before, but time may be more important.

3. Place muffins in pans and keep in refrigerator. Sweet yeast rolls may be made when preparing dinner rolls and then reheated for breakfast in one of the new bun warmers.

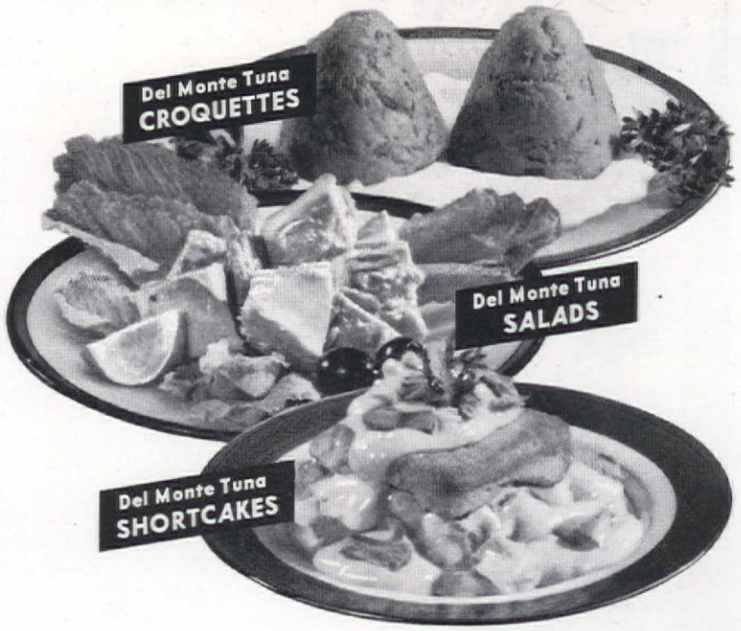
4. Remove waffle batter from the refrigerator a short time before using in the morning, as the cold batter takes slightly longer to bake.

Rising hours for week-end guests seldom correspond with those of the family, especially where there is a mixture of golfers and late party goers. Sunday morning breakfast for the early



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Take your choice, they're all delicious —made with this finer tuna!

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Hard to do? *Never*—with Del Monte Tuna! Every smooth, delicate morsel says "eat hearty!" A flavor thrill for any menu—big or little, meatless or no!

And notice how clear and inviting its color—how flaky its texture! You *know* at once Del Monte selects only smaller, more tender tuna—packs them fresh and fine.

And for your convenience, two delightful styles—Solid Pack and Shredded. Identically delicious—they're *both* Del Monte!

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risers and trays for the others get breakfast over and shorten the time in the kitchen for the busy hostess.

5. Breakfast trays are not difficult with a little help from the other early risers in carrying trays upstairs. Guests do enjoy the delightful sense of luxury in having breakfast in bed.

"Mother, why don't we have fun any more?"

[*Continued from page 45*]

and a bowl of sunny daffodils looked friendly and gay in the glow of tall yellow tapers. Everyone came back for "seconds." They enjoyed our simple fare dressed up in its Sunday best. Why hadn't we thought of this before? Young and not so young were mixing gaily and people forgot the stress of the day. The party was a success! After supper the children played games while we grown-ups chatted. Our guests left by ten, declaring they'd had a grand time. I wondered which of us had enjoyed it most.

Since then we have had all sorts of fun. The longer we keep it up, the better we like it and the more ideas we get. But it's what it has done for us as a family that pleases me most. We are more closely knit, we share each other's interests, we're more aware of the value of family co-operation. The children are learning early lessons in courtesy, thoughtfulness, graciousness, and poise. My husband and I have found hospitality a stimulating tonic.

One rainy afternoon we had an impromptu reading gathering. We had planned a picnic but teeming rain spoiled our plans. What could I do with a group of disappointed girls and boys on a dismal Sunday afternoon? They all gathered in our living room before the open fire and listened spellbound while my husband read them enthralling tales from the Arabian Nights. It was hard to believe that so many lively youngsters could be so quiet and absorbed. Afterwards we had a "fix-your-own" supper, consisting of the picnic food. There were several sandwich fillers, plenty of bread and butter, fruit and cookies. I made a jug of steaming chocolate and left them to enjoy it alone while Dad and I had ours on a tray in our room.

During the Christmas holidays, last year, we had a jolly song fest. We sang old songs and new, Christmas carols holding first place. Between songs we munched big red apples, home-made popcorn balls and cookies and drank spiced punch which the children called "dipsy doodle." You stay

The old ads used to say

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BUT WE SAY...

Be smart! Get the cream cheese that's *guaranteed fresh!*

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don't overlook the advantages of modern wood casements equipped with

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Now you can have these delightful windows which swing outward, drape and clean so easily and are so convenient at no greater cost. Win-Dor equipped windows have these advantages:





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C Take light, tight inside screens and storm sash . . . no hazardous ladder work.

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young surrounded by such f

In winter we go skating or s ding, bringing friends home steaming hot chowder which been set to simmer before leave. We spend an occasio stormy morning just browsing the library. There's always so thing we can do and it's re surprising how much of it is f

Old friends, girls with wh I've worked, newcomers to little community have all come share with us a few frien hours. Perhaps it's just the laxation of an evening of ga after a busy day at work; of old friends bring their child and share our regular family c ner, dressed up with a trick two. We are really glad to them for there are too few pla where mothers can feel at e with a family of little ones. A dinner we all go to some "doin at the school or take in a mo that the young people are anxi to see. Sometimes we just sit talk while the youngsters pl

We have great plans for the tire summer. Ours is just a sm home, with a tiny yard but i we have built an outdoor f place, which has been a joy to I enjoy it most when after a day at work, we have an outd supper. Meat broiled to ten succulency over glowing ember no job at all; a tempting bow crisp vegetable salad, r toasted on sticks and a fruit c sert . . . . who would want a thing better?

Sometimes neighbors drop o for dessert and coffee, in the t light of summer evenings. We doughnuts in a deep iron ke over the fire, while the co brews. We hang the sizzl golden brown morsels on "doughnut tree" to cool, then them in a huge bowl of powde sugar and cinnamon. Coffee doughnuts never tasted better

On Sunday mornings we of plan a trip to the beach for early dip in the ocean and bre fast cooked on one of the be grills. We prepare and p everything the night before that we can leave bright early in the morning. We find t the best way of beating crowds, for the beach is usu all ours when we arrive. ocean seems bluer and more viting in the early morning s light and after a dip in its sa lather our grilled breakfast ta like a feast for the gods. By ea afternoon, when the crowds reaching an unbearable peak, are ready to leave. The best the day has been ours!

Sometimes we go crabbi clamming, or berrying, as t and season permit. There is ways some near-by place of int est to go to, perhaps a place have many times put off visiti



NANCY: *"I'll give you three guesses."*

EDDIE: *"M-m-m. I only need one. It's*

DOLE PINEAPPLE JUICE FROM HAWAII"

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"Opens anything that wears a cap"

Jars (including Mason jars), Glasses, Bottles, Cans, with screw caps, pry-up caps, friction caps, vacuum caps, crown caps. (Also tightens screw caps) This is a wall fixture—swing it up when you want to use it, or down when you want it out of the way—it's always in place. There are no adjustments to make. Made of steel for lifetime service. Lasting silvery finish; $1.00—Chromium, $1.25—Guaranteed. If your dealer cannot supply you, order direct.



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Read These Important Facts!

Quivering nerves can make you old, haggard, cranky—can make your life a nightmare of jealousy, self pity and "the blues."

Often such nervousness is due to female functional disorders. So take famous Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to help calm unstrung nerves and lessen functional "irregularities." For over 60 years relief-giving Pinkham's Compound has helped tens of thousands of grandmothers, mothers and daughters "in time of need."

Pinkham's Compound positively contains no opiates or habit forming ingredients—it is made from nature's own wholesome roots and herbs *each* with its own *special* work to perform. One of the *most effective* "woman's" tonics made! In liquid or handy to carry tablet form (similar formula). *Try it!*

"That's all right for you," a friend who goes to business told me. "You have a home with a yard, a place to entertain. My high school age daughter and I share a furnished room. We have no home life for we can't possibly entertain."

"Why not give a tea for your daughter's friends, or have a shrimp cocktail party. Everyone loves shrimp cocktail, and I never found a person yet who really had their fill."

Not long afterward, I received my invitation. There were tempting bowls of firm, pink shrimp, plenty of nippy sauce, crispy crackers, cheese, and coffee. It was swell! Since then I've been invited to an informal supper in her room. A buffet table was charmingly set for informal serving. The cloth was a colorful peasant linen, the dishes were gay, multi-colored ones. There was a huge bowl of Mexican pottery filled with the grandest golden brown beans I ever tasted. They had been baked specially for the occasion at a near-by delicatessen and delivered piping hot. There was a basket of assorted breads (Boston Brown included), a large wooden bowl of crisp mixed salad, greens and a simple dessert. Coffee perked invitingly in an electric percolator. It was all so informal and gay that one couldn't help enjoying it—and isn't that the success of any party? Too, it sprang from the imagination and ingenuity of the woman who only a few months before had said, "I couldn't possibly entertain." The remarkable part of it was that the entire menu for the crowd had cost very little more than dinner at a restaurant frequently cost this woman and her daughter.

So you see, as a rule it's all in getting started. You may not have an ocean or an outdoor fireplace, and quite frequently your purse may feel far too light for pretentious entertaining, but plan to do something at regular intervals. With a bit of imagination and ingenuity you can put fun and pleasant home life into your budget without extra cost. Believe me, you will have a more contented and tractable family and be happier when you do!

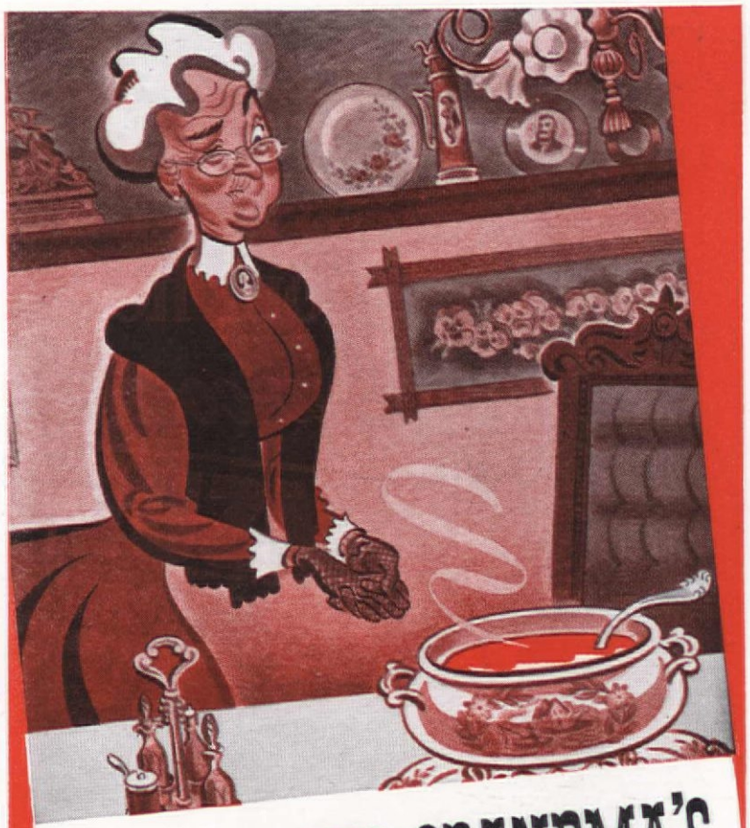
DO NOT BE MISLED!

THE AMERICAN HOME does not publish, and has no interest in, The American Home Cook Book recently put on the market.

The use of the title of our magazine was without our knowledge or consent and has confused some of our readers.

We are in no way responsible for, nor do we endorse, this book.

THE AMERICAN HOME



NO WONDER GRANDMA'S JEALOUS

Proud Home Cooks Never Set Ladle To Finer Cream Of Tomato Soup Than Heinz

THOSE stately matriarchs of the soup kettle—our grandmothers—now pay culinary compliments to *Heinz!* For they know *home-flavored* soups when they taste 'em! And Heinz Cream of Tomato is a delightfully authentic old-time dish if there ever was one! For we blend together in small batches—according to an old farm recipe—Heinz rosy, pedigreed tomatoes, aromatic oriental spices and extra-rich cream.

Why not order your favorites of Heinz 23 Home-style Soups? They rate highly not only with sentimental oldsters but those who are too young for memories . . .



HEINZ *Cream of Tomato* **SOUP**

GUESTS AT YOUR TABLE FOR 70 YEARS

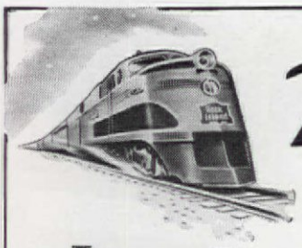
57



● Soup's on at lunch counters and fountains the country over! Heinz Electric Soup Kitchen heats Heinz Home-style Soups in an electric soup cup in two minutes flat—as you watch. So be sure to ask for a fragrant, steaming bowlful of your favorite kind next time you're dining out!



● American as the covered wagon is lusty Heinz Bean Soup! Chock-full of mealy, mellow navy beans and toothsome bits of delicious smoked ham, it's so nourishing and energy-giving it's almost a meal-in-itself. How about having some for the children's lunch? They'll pass their plates for more!



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Insulate your home with *low-cost*

KIMSUL INSULATION

REG. U.S. & CAN. PAT. OFF



Mr. John W. Davitt, consulting engineer, Poestenkill, N. Y., remodeled and KIMSUL insulated this 150-year-old farmhouse. Mr. Davitt says: "I recognize that you have combined simplicity, flexibility, permanence, and high insulating value in KIMSUL so that the result is a first-class job of insulation . . ."

Millions of Square Feet Now In Use Prove KIMSUL'S Outstanding Ability!

● Builders of crack streamliners choose KIMSUL* insulation to add to the comfort of passengers! Engineers, expert buyers of insulation, also use KIMSUL to insulate motor cars, busses, refrigerators and wherever positive protection against heat, cold and noise is wanted.

Permanent Protection Against Heat and Cold

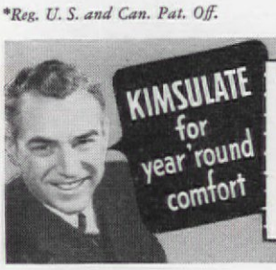
KIMSUL lasts as long as your house: It is made of the same material as your house! KIMSUL is wood—it's wood transformed by the magic of modern chemistry into one of the safest, *most efficient* and *lasting* home insulations *known to science!* KIMSUL is low in cost, soon pays for itself in savings on fuel while it provides year 'round comfort for you and your family. Highly resistant to fire and moisture, KIMSUL relieves you of all insulation worries.

Enjoy the comfort of a *completely* KIMSUL-Insulated Home. Find out how little it costs!

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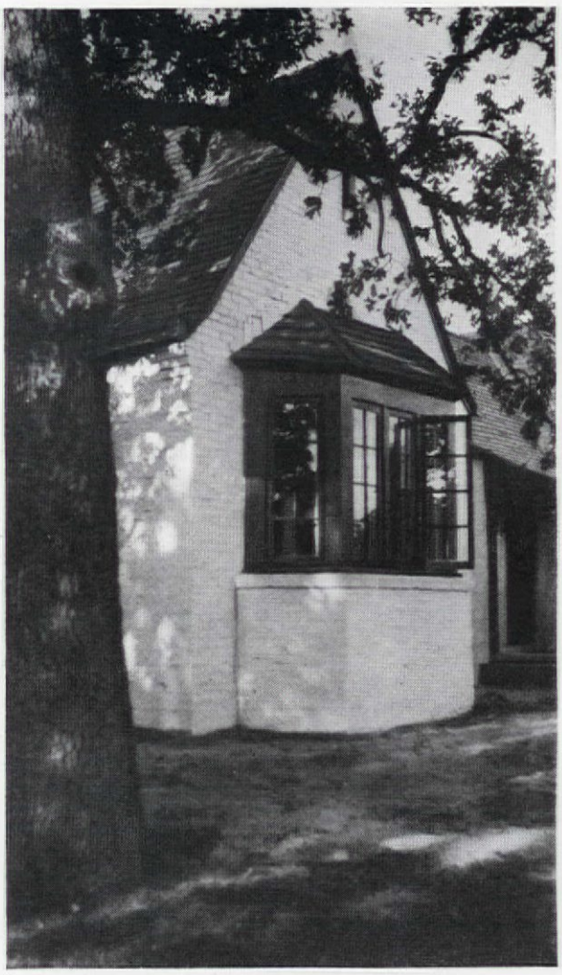


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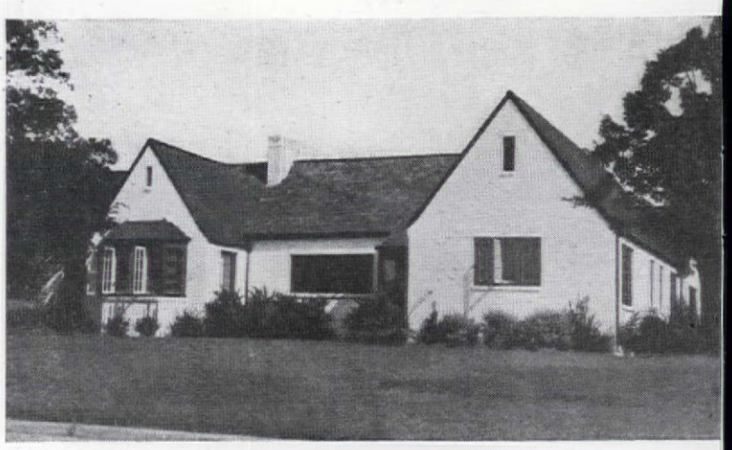
DOWN in TEXAS

Home of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Ryan

JACK ATKINSON AND W. OLIN SANDERS, JR., *Architects*

THIS low, picturesque English type house in Rockdale, Texas, is admirably related to its garden and outdoor living areas, screening them from two streets. Four large post oak trees add character to the level plot and make the house look comfortably close to the ground. The dark brown of the shingled roof and exterior woodwork contrasts with white walls, while the sunroom's bay window and the bedroom wing make pleasant breaks in the front facade.

Designed by Jack Atkinson and W. Olin Sanders, Jr., the plan meets all the requirements of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Ryan, the owners. Since there are no children, there are only two bedrooms, but a sunroom is included in the one-story house. The house faces south, and all of the rooms take full advantage of the breezes. An attached one-car garage



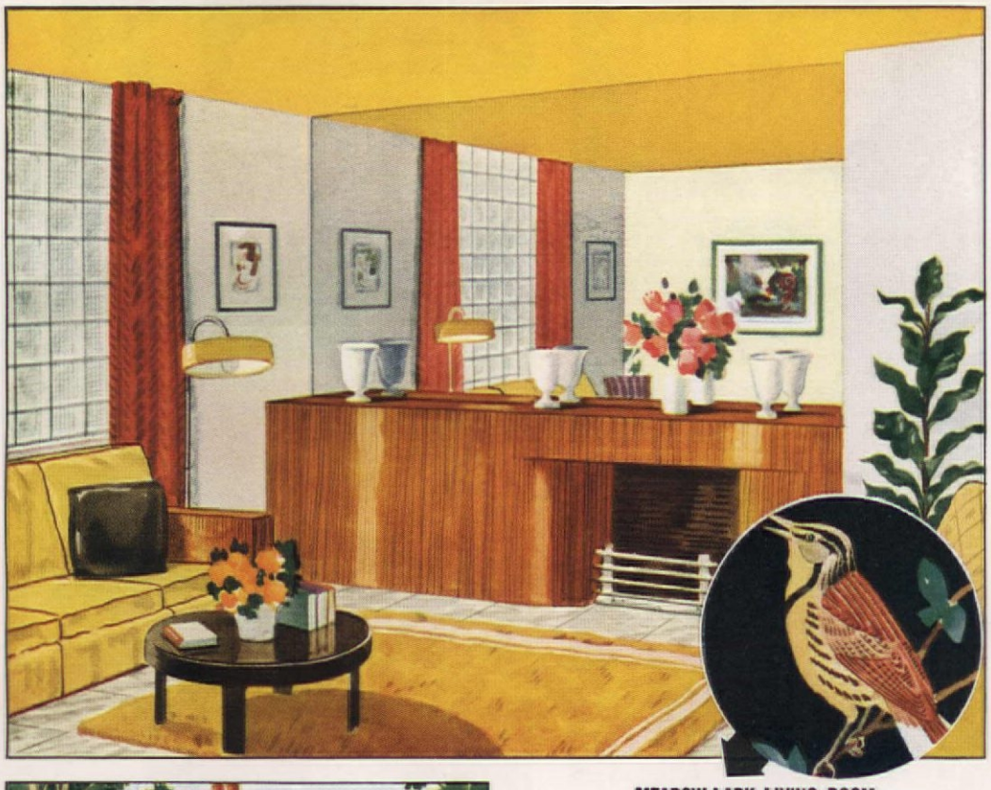
Cost under $6,000 in 1934



BILL'S BRINGIN' HIS BRIDE . . .
LET'S CALL A PAINTER NOW!

● What mother wouldn't thrill to the thought of welcoming son's new bride into her home? And what mother wouldn't bustle about busily cleaning, rearranging, "doin' over" a room or two? Especially these days—when it's so easy. You just call your Painting Contractor. And with quick-drying, long-lasting Pittsburgh Paints, he will redecorate *any* room in your house in a single day.

COLORS BY NATURE - PAINTS BY PITTSBURGH



GIVE *your* home exciting new personality—with the magic of color. Brush on beauty . . . with nature's thrill-packed hues and tints in sturdy finishes by Pittsburgh . . . both inside and out.

Weave gossamer, dusky blues from the silky skein of a summer sky throughout your bedrooms. Spread the shimmering greens of dew-laden vines throughout a cheery dining room. Make play rooms *gay* rooms with the glittering golden-reds and yellows of a wind-washed sunrise.

Any of nature's gladsome colors can be duplicated accurately in beautiful shades of Pittsburgh Wallhide, Florhide and Waterspar Enamel. Just take a tip from Bill's mother and "Call A Painter Now." And for expert advice on unusual decorating problems, write Studio of Creative Design, Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., Paint Division, Pittsburgh, Pa.

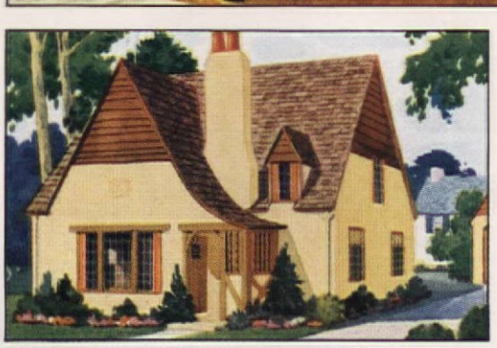
MEADOW LARK LIVING ROOM

Crisp colors from a lovely bird are combined here to lend stately charm. The yellows of his breast are matched accurately in *Chrome Yellow Medium Wallhide Toner* for ceiling. Walls are *White Wallhide Flat.* Fireplace, African Zebra Wood. Drapes, the color of *Venetian Red Wallhide Toner.* Floor, white.



PEACH DINING ROOM

Soft, glowing tints from a luscious peach embellish this stunning dining room. Walls are *Peach Wallhide Toner Intermix;* woodwork *True Ivory Waterspar Enamel.* The blush of our peach adds the deep rose of drapes.



PITTSBURGH FINISHES bring years of distinctive beauty and protection to this charming English home. Body of house is *Pueblo Buff Cementhide;* door and wood trim, the color of *Walnut Tor-On Shingle Stain.* Exterior finishes are field-tested—subjected to sun, rain, snow, sleet, wind—in all different climates. This furnishes you positive assurance that they will *stand up.*

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2. Pittsburgh Paints cover a large area making them economical to use.

3. They flow easily and evenly from the brush, leaving a surface as "Smooth As Glass."

4. The manufacture of Pittsburgh Paints is scientifically controlled, from raw material to finished products. Every finish must pass rigid tests of uniformity and durability.



MORNING GLORY KITCHEN

Lovelier, livelier blues copied from a morning glory form the color keynote of this happy kitchen. Walls are *Royal Blue Waterspar Enamel;* ceiling, *White Wallhide Semi-Gloss;* woodwork, *White Waterspar Enamel.*

Copr. 1940 Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.

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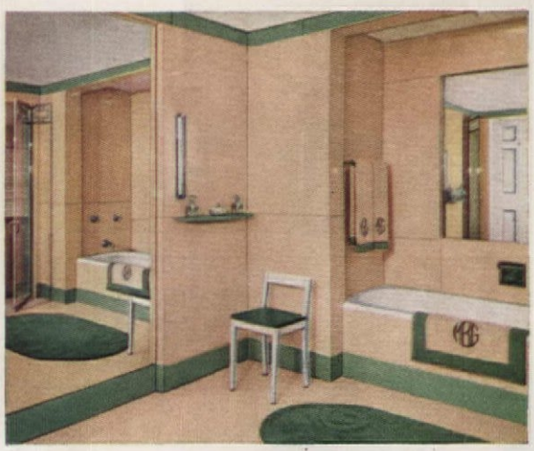
Glass can make your rooms as delightful as these



YOUR POWDER ROOM IS AS CHARMING as it is useful when you dress it up with large mirror panels like these. Besides giving the room a bright, gay personality, mirrors make it seem to grow in size, almost as though by magic. To those persons who want mirrors which return absolutely accurate *color* reflections, we recommend Crystalex (water white) mirrors, made especially for this purpose. Residence of Mrs. M. J. Bernet, Shaker Heights, Ohio. Architect, Maxwell A. Norcross.



EVERY CHILD'S ROOM should have a full-length door mirror in it, to encourage neatness and pride in appearance. Mirrors to fit any door in your house can be installed in a jiffy. And note the mirror over the chest, No. GA-5 in the new Pittsburgh Glass Age Mirror line, combining mirror glass with Carrara Structural Glass, a new idea in decorations. Child's dress and furniture by Childhood, Inc., New York.



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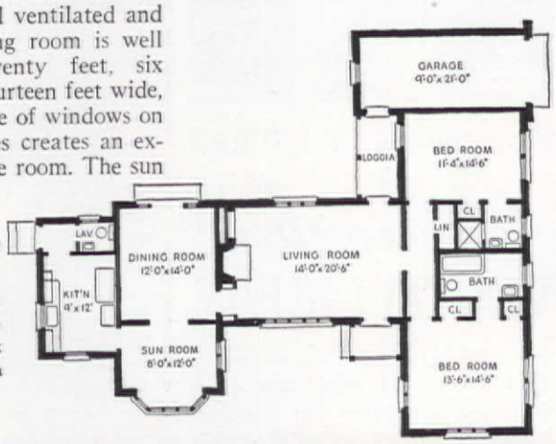
For interesting information on Pittsburgh Paint see reverse side of page.

at the rear is accessible from the living room, through a loggia.

Knotty pine paneling, given one coat of Early English stain and wiped almost immediately afterwards to accentuate knots and deep cut molding lines, and built-in bookcases make the living room fireplace wall unusually interesting. The sunroom floor is of cool, rust color quarry tile. Dull brass hardware and lighting fixtures were used in some rooms, wrought iron in others.

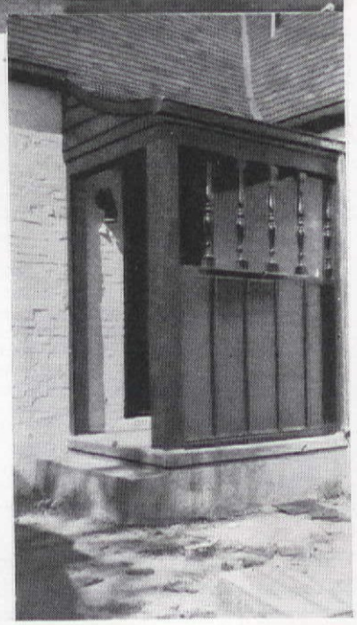
IN ADDITION to its picturesqueness the low rambling plan is practical because it gives the principal rooms, except the dining room, cross ventilation. The dining room has side lights and a double glass door opening onto the garden at the rear of the house so it is well ventilated and lighted. The living room is well proportioned, twenty feet, six inches long by fourteen feet wide, and the advantage of windows on the two long sides creates an exceptionally livable room. The sun

BUILDING DATA: *Exterior walls:* veneered with a variety of bricks, giving a pleasing, irregular texture. *Roof:* dark brown wood shingles laid over 1 x 4 pine lath. *Interior partitions:* 2 x 4 studs, pine sheathing, canvas and paper. *Floors:* 2 x 10 joists, ship lap subflooring, dry sheet, and clear red oak flooring. *Mill work:* all sash, doors, interior and exterior frames and screens are Ponderosa pine, sills of sugar pine. *Electricity:* knob and tube construction throughout. *Plumbing:* cast iron waste and vents, galvanized iron water pipes, wrought-iron gas piping. *Heating:* wood burning fireplace and gas burning space heaters. *Cost:* approximately $5700 in 1934, exclusive of land, but if built today probably would cost about $6600.



Simple planting of native shrubs enhances this English house with white walls and dark stained trim



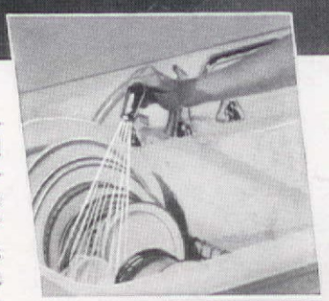


room is another general room which is always inviting; it serves for informal meals sometimes and divides the dining room from the kitchen so kitchen noise and odors aren't easily admitted into the rest of the house. The bedrooms form a wing of their own and each of them has its own bath. A lavatory off the kitchen is sensibly located.

The exterior details are simple but effective. The small vestibule porch at the front door is almost completely enclosed with wood siding and the sort of baluster screen typical of English architectural details. A trellis framing the dining room bay sets it off well. All the exterior woodwork has one coat of dark oak oil stain and two coats of varnish in nice contrast to the white walls.

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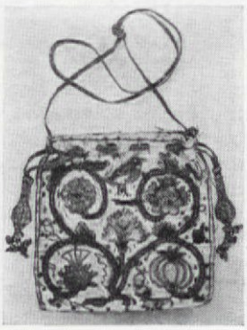
It's in the bag!

[*Continued from page 76*]

first used in accounts of the twelfth century. During the thirteenth century these receptacles were intended mainly for carrying and distributing alms and so were named *almoner, almonier* or *aumônière*. They were made of silk, often embroidered, or of leather boiled in oil and stamped and tooled with designs. Illustrations of Byzantine or Frankish noblemen show them wearing at their girdles such pouches of tooled leather and woven materials. Pilgrims generally carried a poke or pouch of plain leather.

The most famous bag of the Middle Ages is doubtless the traveling pouch of gold which Charlemagne carried when he went to Rome and which was placed in his crypt.

During the Crusades, when money flowed freely, the convenience of having a bag ready at hand for personal paraphernalia was first recognized, and Paul Lacroix, the French historian, tells



Above, white satin embroidered in silk and metal; English 17th century. Below, style of 1850. Tiny beads in nice coloring, mostly rose, green, blue, and opalescent. Brocade of faded blue-green, black velvet ribbon



From author's collection

us in "Le Môyen Age et la Renaissance," the standard illustrated work on the manners, customs, and dress of those times, that "these great expeditions gave rise to the general use of the purse." Saracen ladies wore suspended from their girdles by cords of silk or metal chains beautifully embroidered bags in which they carried money, ornaments, writing-tablets, gloves, and usually a supply of home remedies.

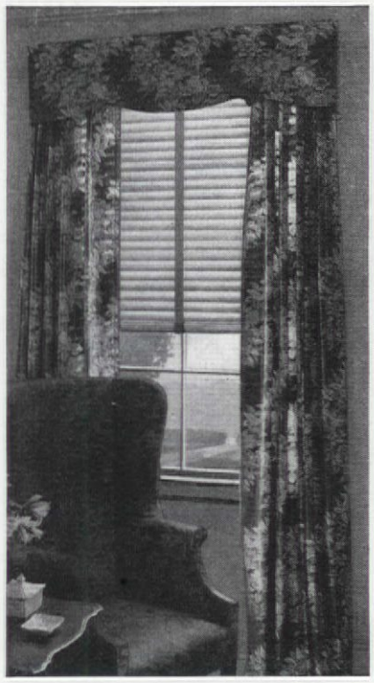
When upon their return from the Holy Land the Crusaders introduced elaborate Oriental customs into their home countries the purse became a veritable work of art. It was made of silk, velvet, leather, or canvas, mounted on a framework of brass or silver; essential features were a topbar and a ring for suspension from a girdle or to hold on a finger. These bags were embellished with costly embroidery in gold, silver, or colored silk threads. Artisans found a new outlet for their skill, for which the working women in Paris were especially noted. In a French chanson of the thirteenth century a peddler attests to the popularity of the purse with the words: "I have store or stamped purses, red and green, white and black, that I sell readily at fairs." In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries the French word for purse was *gipcière;* Chaucer's Knight had a *gipcière* all of silk hung at his girdle white as "morwe snow."

Remains of brass-framed purses, pouches, and wallets have been found. The larger ones were about seven inches long and five inches deep, intended to be worn at the side of the waist, suspended by a strap and often, for safety, closed with a knife. The smaller type, either with slender framework or none at all, was in general use throughout the Middle Ages and into the seventeenth century, appearing as general accessory to the costume. Every kind of material was used; silk, satin, velvet, tapestry, and leather, extravagantly embellished with tassels, fringes, ribbons, rings, embroidery in metal threads, petit point, beadwork, and knitting. These bags generally closed with strings, as in Shakespeare's "Othello," where we find: "Thou Iago, who hast had my Purse as if the strings were thine."

Outstanding French purses were made of the finest known beadwork called "sable" or "sanded," because the tiny beads were no larger than grains of sand; how any needle could have been fine enough to penetrate them will forever remain a mystery, because sable work has become a lost art.

Lovely, too, were the contribution purses, so called because they were kept in churches for the collection of contributions and the preservation of donations. Like most purses of that time they were finished with hanging balls and tassels, and decorated with flowers, ecclesiastical emblems and symbols of the church.

The "well dressed man" of the eighteenth century carried a *portefeuille* fashioned of silk and satin, beautifully embroidered to match his waistcoat. Similar wallets of the Empire period were often divided into various compartments which held not only money but memoranda, a lock of hair per-



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haps or a tiny *billet doux*. This type of interior, as well as the general shape, made these *portefeuilles* a distinct forerunner of our own envelope-bag or wallet.

Indeed, any one tracing the history of the purse must be impressed by how very little its outline has changed through the ages. The earliest bag with drawstrings, carried in classic times,



Above, Italian, 17th century, embroidered green satin. Below, English 17th century canvas bag embroidered with silk and metal thread



must have inspired the reticule of our grandmothers, and designers of 1938 have in turn adopted it for our own use; modern pouch-bags resemble those used in the first centuries and in the Middle Ages; the chatelaine bag, so popular during the 1890's is very similar to the one worn centuries ago in similar fashion, suspended from the waist. Still farther back, we find examples of Peruvian hand-bags, which show little difference from typical 1938 tapestry bags, though they are between one and two thousand years old. Magnificently woven from cotton, wool and native fiber, elongated in shape, with long tapestry handles, they were mainly used to carry talismans, jewels, medicinal herbs, chewing tobacco of those days, and cocoa leaves. The marvelous condition of these bags is supposedly due to the exceptional dryness of the Peruvian coast and the fact that these bags were found in graves which acted as ovens and aided in preservation.

When in Shakespeare's time large pockets were the fashion for men, the purse lost much of its usefulness and popularity. But what was milady to do, when eighteenth century fashion decreed she wear clinging dresses of filmiest material without petti-

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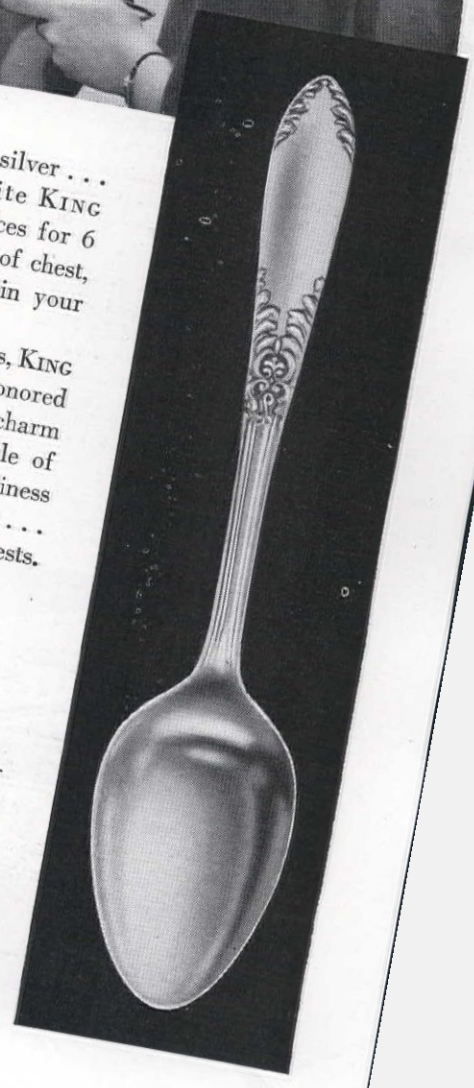
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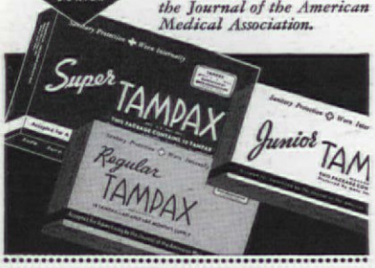
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coat, with not one place for a pocket? A solution had to be found and thus the well-known reticule was born—at first called "indispensable," a designation rather suitable for our own times.

In 1808 a Philadelphia magazine printed that "no lady of fashion now appears in public without a reticule, which contains her handkerchief, fan, card-money, and essence bottle." And James Laver tells us in "English Costume of the Eighteenth Century" that "it was much laughed at, but has survived several periods of eclipse to become in our own day the most necessary accessory of female costume."

The reticule usually was made of satin, velvet, silk, and beads, though during the 1820's the most fashionable ones were made of Morocco leather. These bags often matched the color of the dress, were oblong in shape and fastened with drawstrings; some had especially long ones by which they could be hung over chairs.

Eliza Southgate's sister sent her an "Indispensable" which she describes in a letter of 1802: "Martha sent me a most elegant indispensable, white lutestring, spangled with silver." We read, too, that in 1806 many pretty peeresses carried sandwiches in silk indispensables to eat in Court during Lord Melville's trial. This must call to mind the pretty peeresses of 1937 who lunched in equally informal fashion during the recent coronation in England.

In "History of American Costume," Elizabeth McClellan tells us about the fashion of "handkerchief-purses" as described in the year 1821 in a fashion letter from Paris. "When the corner of the white handkerchief of fine lawn had only a little embroidery, then one of these corners served as a purse to the French ladies, and after tying a knot they fastened their rings of keys to it. Now these handkerchiefs are so beautifully embroidered that they require more management in the display of them; and those fashionable dames who will not take the trouble of carrying a little basket or a reticule have a silver purse that they fasten to their belt." In the same work the author describes the wedding gown of Esther Marwell, a New England Quakeress, married in Salem, Massachusetts, about the middle of the eighteenth century; the reticule she carried was fashioned of white lutestring embroidered like her sleeves in silk.

In the archives of the Moravians at Lititz a reticule from the year 1790 is preserved, fashioned of white silk, embroidered in crepe flowers; also a number of white silk pocket cases, worked in colors, and very closely resembling the flat envelopes and cardcases so fashionable only a few years ago.



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"Purses of silk, knitted in various shapes and patterns were fashionable with both men and women in the early nineteenth century," Ella Shannon Bowles tells us in "Homespun Handicraft." She goes on to say that "knitted bags were frequently adorned with beads, in which case the pattern was planned and different beads strung on silk or linen before knitting."

This work was most exacting and had to be done according to strictest rules or all of the work would be in vain. These intricate and lovely patterns were a prized possession and the cause for much envy. In one very sad case, as related by Alice Morse Earle in "Two Centuries of Costume in America," this jealousy was even strong enough to disrupt a very beautiful friendship. It is the story of Mathilda, the champion bag-maker of a New England town, and Ann Green, who had been her closest friend until they became rivals for the affections of a minister, a widower with three children. This good man and coveted prize had a sister for whose esteem both girls vied much, but, as the result showed, not too wisely. Mathilda had a great advantage over her rival Ann, by owning a truly wonderful bag pattern, the very finest ever. Duly somber in coloring and sentiment it depicted a weeping funeral willow drooping over a grass-sown grave; the colors called for shades of grays, purples, and white against a black background.

Mathilda presented this prized pattern to the one whom she hoped one day to call sister. But alas! Fate, in the disguise of Ann Green, decreed otherwise, for this fair maiden, consumed by jealousy, had changed the directions in Mathilda's knitting basket. The minister's sister, unable to work out the pattern and believing she had been purposely misled, was much enraged, and the good minister married a widow from another town. Ann Green, tortured by her New England conscience, later confessed her wrongdoing to Mathilda, who, the story goes, forgave her. Both girls were again united, perhaps not so much in friendship as in mutual sorrow.

That an innocent pattern could be the cause for so much grief! But then these little masterpieces meant much to our grandmothers, so much that many a maiden even raised her own silkworms to be assured of strong silk!

These beaded bags were then as now quite expensive. In the year 1800 the usual price for knitting such a bag was $5 and the many tinted beads were costly. Velvet, silk, canvas, or homespun linen were the favorite backgrounds for the beading and the most popular designs included churches, schoolhouses, and flowers. Occasionally

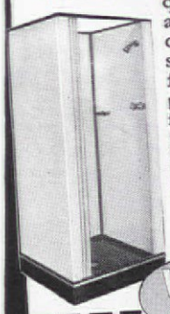
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mottoes were worked into the decoration, as for instance the ever timely one: "Money maketh mirth where it is plenty, but small is the mirth when the purse is empty."

Why men hate spinach

[*Continued from page 54*]

glorify beets in vinegar and pickle-spices instead of always buttering them.

The important thing is to introduce vegetables subtly into his favorite dishes. Accompany most of your roasts with well-done onions, celery, or tomatoes. Serve rutabagas mashed, with hot milk, like whipped potatoes, and cover them with his favorite brown gravy. Garnish ham, prepared his favorite way, with golden patinas of round-sliced carrots. Dip slightly green tomatoes in egg-and-cracker batter and grill them to serve over or with roast fowl. In preparing sauerkraut (which *is* a vegetable), baste it first in bacon drippings and then put it into the oven for three good hours, with some kind of pork in the same pan. But broil or fry the bulk of the spare ribs separately and add them to the casserole for only the last fifteen minutes, to take on the kraut taste without losing their own crisp crust.

In short, use your creative imagination on the most trifling of your meals. Cooking is an age-old art and, like any art, its own reward. But in the field of cooking, you may expect a further reward in the improved disposition of your male consumers, who will "take it and like it," if you will only take pride in the genius of your meal-planning, the magic of cookery, and the exciting intrigue of inspired serving.

The 5 cardinal points are:

[*Continued from page 41*]

the outer casing of a unit is no measure of its worth or operating efficiency; the eye appeal of the unit has a definite value but it is a separate consideration. Heating units must be constructed with safety in mind and with proper precautions to prevent overheating and explosions. A great deal of research has been devoted to making gas fired units safe. No piece of equipment can be installed unless it has the approval of the American Gas Association and their rigid tests include one on safety features. There has been such improvement in manufacturing today that there is really small likelihood of buying equipment which is unsafe but prospective buyers or home build-



MOTHER! Constant Dosing is Liable to Upset a Delicate Stomach, Lower Resistance!

EXPERIENCED mothers know how often constant dosing upsets delicate little stomachs, thus reducing resistance when it is most needed.

Benefit by their experience. If your child has a miserable cold, head stuffed up, breathing passages irritated, and there is coughing, muscular soreness or tightness—do what 3 out of 5 American mothers do. Use the *external* poultice-and-vapor treatment—the home-approved treatment—specially developed for children—Vicks VapoRub.

Massage the throat, chest and back with Vicks VapoRub. Notice how it starts to relieve distress.

ACTS 2 WAYS AT ONCE. VapoRub stimulates like an old-fashioned warming poultice. At the same time its pleasing medicinal vapors are breathed direct into the cold-irritated air passages.

For hours, this double poultice-and-vapor action continues. It invites refreshing sleep. Often, in the morning, most of the misery of the cold is gone. No wonder Vicks VapoRub is the approved treatment in 3 out of 5 homes all over America. *So Why Experiment?*



Ideal for Children . . . VICKS VAPORUB *Just as Good for Adults*

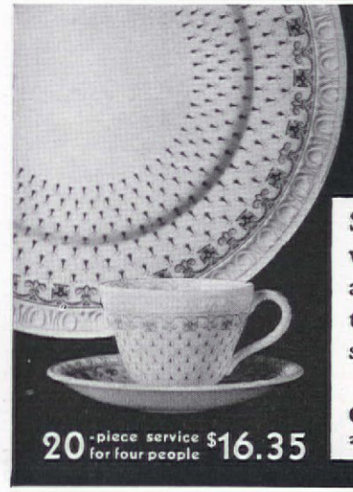
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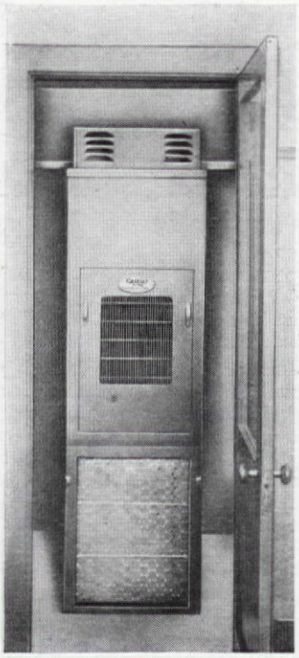
Name_____

Address_____

City and State_____

ers are warned against equipment which is sold so cheaply that the margin of safety is consequently lowered.

The Blower Fan: The blower fan is the apparatus which forces warmed air from the heating unit into the room. It should be large enough to produce five or more air changes per hour. For example, if a house has an inside volume of one thousand cubic feet, the fan should be large enough to produce five thousand cubic feet per hour. The fan may be considered very much like a pump



Carrier



American Radiator

in a water system. In addition to supplying the required volume, it must be strong enough to produce that volume against any resistance such as pipes or other encumbrances. The fans should also be quiet in operation, which means that it must run with comparative slowness. Most noisy fans are noisy because they are running too fast.

Humidifiers: The humidifier produces the moisture required for humidifying the air. The moisture content of the air on a good humidifying system will range between 25% and 40% relative humidity. When excessive moisture is supplied it condenses on

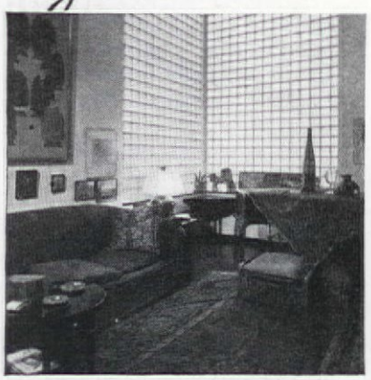
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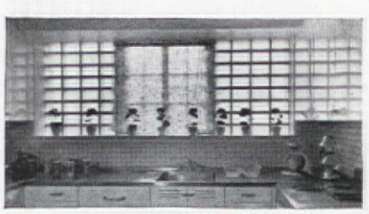
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the windows and when too little is supplied wallpaper, picture frames, and other furnishings dry out to a great degree.

Filters: Filters are essential for absorbing dust, pollen, and other impurities from air being heated and distributed by the heating system. They should be kept clean and there should be a sufficient number of them.

3. CONTROLS: The controls do the thinking for the heating system and *regulate* it automatically. A thermostat for instance insures your receiving just the amount of heat you want, when you want it. A number of clock thermostats are on the market which you set (pretty much like an alarm clock) to lower the temperature during sleeping hours and increase it in the early morning. There are other controls to regulate the amount of fuel burned and the operation of the blower fan and controls to act as a safety device, preventing the furnace unit from overheating and shutting off the fuel supply if the fire fails to ignite. There are humidistats to control the amount of humidity in the house.

Controls to operate the blower fan on a warm air heating unit at low and high speed are an advantage. When a small amount of heat is needed the fan runs at low speed, when more is needed it runs at high speed making it possible to keep the heating system in more continuous operation. This insures more even heat than starting and stopping the heating system. Since the heat loss of a house, going out through windows, walls and doors, is a continuous process, the heat supply process should be continuous too. Controls regulating the quantity of fuel supplied to the furnace are most helpful. The modulating gas control is a good example. It supplies only enough gas to the burners to heat the house continuously without going on or off. On most automatic units the fuel is supplied intermittently or the fire burns intermittently to supply heat for the house; the unit operates longer on cold days than on warmer ones. In the modulating type of fuel supply, fuel is sent in constantly and the amount of fuel and the height of the gas flame is regulated just enough to keep the house at proper temperature. This method is similar to the way you control your gas flame on the kitchen range. If you want a real warm fire you turn the flame up; if you want a slow fire you have a low flame. But the modulating gas control regulates the height of the flame automatically.

In installing a heating system be sure you understand what controls you are getting and how they operate. You are trusting

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Termites are active in 35 states. They eat wood—the wood in people's houses. They work unseen *inside* joists, studding, floors. Home owners usually don't know they have termites until the house settles or a table-leg pierces a floor. In some sections 4 out of 5 homes are being attacked. It won't cost you a penny to find out if termites are secretly damaging your house. There are TERMINIX Licensees of E. L. Bruce Co. in every state where serious termite infestation occurs. These TERMINIX Licensees are scientifically trained and equipped to search for termites—and they'll search your property without cost. If termites are found, you can insure your home against their damage by Bonded TERMINIX Insulation—a scientific anti-termite treatment guaranteed by E. L. Bruce Co. and insured by Sun Insurance Office, Ltd.

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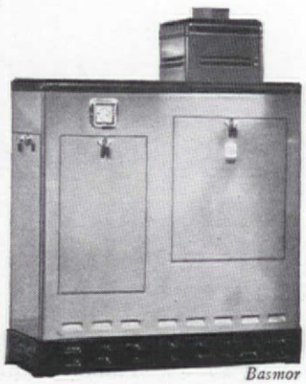


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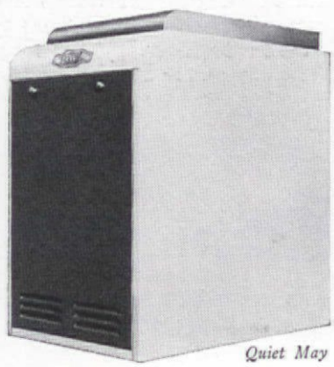
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350 Madison Ave., New York

them to do the thinking and regulating of your heating system.

4. TYPE OF INSTALLATION: Of what importance is the installation? Many owners believe that if they buy quality heating equipment all their problems are solved. But they aren't. If the system isn't properly installed, its functioning is handicapped and it may prove very unsatisfactory. In the Air Conditioning "Gold Rush" which occurred in the last few years, some installations were made carelessly and improperly. A good warm air



Basmor

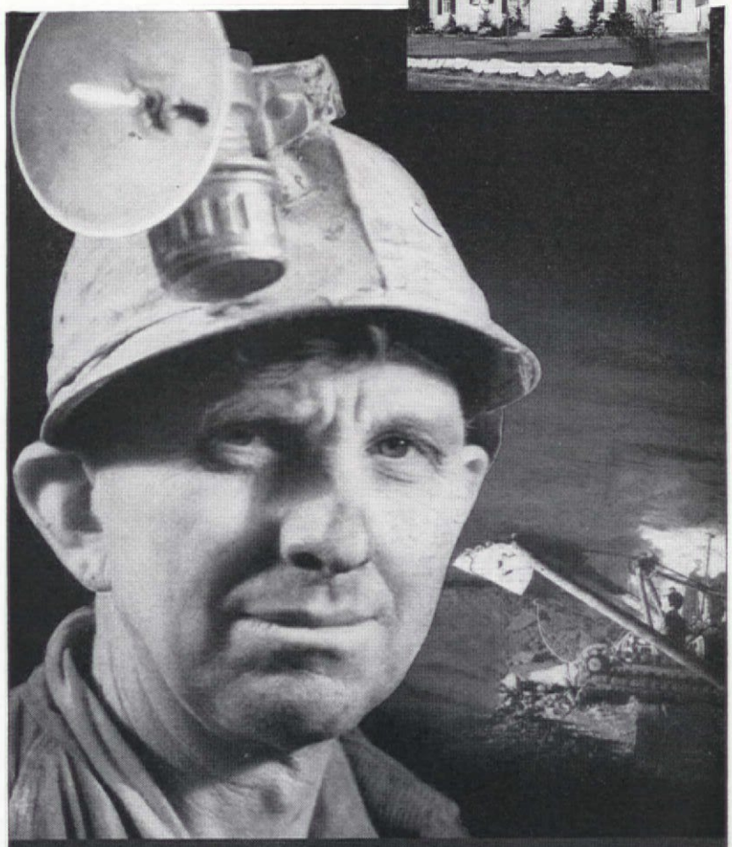


Quiet May

heating installation should have a warm air outlet and a return air inlet in every room, excepting the kitchen, bathroom, and garage where no return air inlet is necessary. In large rooms more than one outlet and more than one inlet are required. The duct work should be installed neatly and with as few "high resistance fittings" as possible. Certain fittings, such as large elbows, reverse elbows, and the like have so much resistance to air flow that unless proper consideration of their design is taken, certain portions of the house will not heat satisfactorily. The use of prefabricated fittings has been a great asset to winter conditioning systems. They are shipped by the manufacturer of the heating system, having been especially designed for his equipment. They are an aid to efficient operation and less unsightly in the basement. If proper care is taken in planning the basement duct work, much of the material can be concealed within the joist space and more head room is gained for laundry, recreation room and the

EXTRA YEARS OF BEAUTY—nothing sets off a house like a new coat of paint and no paint keeps its good looks like white lead paint. White lead doesn't mean white paint only—*you can get any color.*





The lead we're mining here is what puts gumption in paint



YOU know how lead stands weather. Well, this lead metal is what's used to make the white lead used in paint.

No wonder white lead paint lasts so long. No wonder it stays smooth and tough and durable—free from cracking and chipping like lead itself.

You don't have to take my word for it that lead is great stuff in paint.

Just ask any painter who's got a reputation for work that stands up. He'll tell you the same.

So it's a good idea when specifying paint to know how much lead it contains. And it's a pretty safe rule to say: *the higher the lead content,* the better the paint. You can't, for example, get a more durable paint than one containing 100% white lead. This is the kind good painters mix from lead-in-oil. In many localities it is also sold ready for use.

• • •



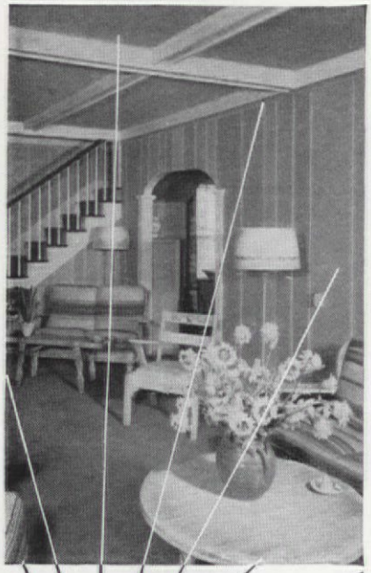
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Available in 7 shades, Nu-Wood colors are now richer—clearer than ever before! The new *Kolor-Fast* Nu-Wood has greater light reflectivity . . . brings a glamorous glow to every room. No other similar finish duplicates Nu-Wood color and texture.

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like. The architect and heating engineer should plan duct work and heating distribution together carefully so that needless partitions and other encumbrances are avoided and the heating installation will achieve its most efficient operation. Air noise in the duct work and air leakage through openings in the sheet metal pieces are objectionable and these defects should not occur.

5. INSTALLED PRICE AND OPERATING COST: Manufacturers and dealers of heating equipment would like to see each homeowner get the best equipment made, the best type suited to the structure and requirements of his house. But price is a big factor in most cases. There are two cost factors involved in buying heating equipment. One is the cost of the installed equipment and the other is the operating cost for using the equipment.

On some types of equipment, the original cost is high but the operating cost is low. Some types of oil burning equipment are more costly than equipment using another fuel because a large fuel tank must be placed in the basement or outside the house. The charge for this is in addition to the cost of the heating equipment. But if low cost fuel is used, the operating cost is low. In the purchase of heating equipment you should bear in mind the fact that it is intended for ten to twenty years use without replacement. So, general operating cost is a more important factor than the original cost of the equipment.

What is good heat? Good heat is produced by a well constructed unit, well installed, automatically fired and automatically controlled, in a manner suitable to the structure of the residence and to the comfort of the resident. Generally, not enough people know what good heat is; too few insist on proper installation of heating equipment which will accurately control temperatures, air movement, humidity, and air cleanliness—all important features.

It needn't look like Siamese twins even though it is a two-family house!

[*Continued from page 43*]

garden itself. Cabinets, shelves, and cupboards are built under or around the windows and glass blocks in almost every room. The cabinets are of simple, sturdy modern design with flush doors, large round knob handles, and recessed toe space. They provide attractive treatments for every window and wall space of which they are a part as well as create desirable storage space. Marble window sills under the glass block panels are a pleasant base for plants. The bands of windows carried around the corners in the bedrooms yield perfect ventilation as well as a fresh decorative treatment for the walls. The third, center bedroom is completely enclosed by glass along its exterior walls and is just big enough for one built-in bed. The bedroom quarters upstairs and down are sensibly centered in a rear section adjoining the bath. A basement recreation room, used as a family hobby room by the Brighams, has broad tables and shelves for drawing, painting, and carpentry work. It offers additional living space and neighborhood children come in occasionally for craft work. As it looks out upon a flower and rock garden, it is an agreeable place by day or night.

The kitchen is gay and bright in color with orange-red linoleum on counter tops and turquoise doors, cabinet lining, and window trim. The walls are cream color and the floor tan linoleum. Built-in cabinets are planned in a serviceable U shape and the equipment is electrical.

The large L-shaped living and dining room walls are interestingly painted. The whole ceiling is cocoa color and the wall between living and dining space is cocoa also. But the long inside wall is apricot, while the fireplace wall is white. Wall space around the window areas, including their soffits, is painted apricot. In the recessed window at the left of the fireplace, there are light boxes; white panes of glass are framed between shelves by strips of wood. The electric light bulbs behind them can be changed by sliding out the glass panes. The cabinet work, wood trim, and flush plywood doors are a cream tone rapidly deepening to honey color by frequent waxing.

Building Data

Exterior walls: Cinder blocks, white cement paint. *Interior walls*: Wood frame, furred and plastered. *Roof*: Gray asphalt shingles. *Trim and Millwork*: White pine. *Insulation*: Wool fill in first and second story ceilings. *Windows*: Steel casements. *Screens*: Copper. *Floors*: First floor reinforced concrete slab. Second floor hard wood light finish. *Plumbing*: Cast-iron soil pipes. Copper piping. *Heating*: Oil-fired air conditioned furnace for lower apartment. Gas-fired air-conditioning furnace for upstairs apartment. Gas hot water heaters. *Kitchens*: All electric equipment. *Cost per cubic foot*: *38¢* (includes architect's fee).

—ILMA H. BRIGHAM



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Today there's no need to tolerate the troubles of old-fashioned windows that stick, jam and rattle. No longer can anyone afford windows which leak heat, let in drafts and get out of order. SILENTITE put an end to all this in 1932, when Curtis brought out the first "insulated" window.

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1866
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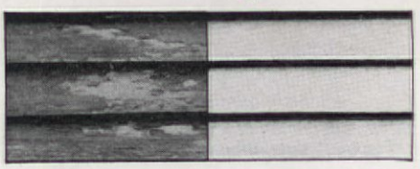
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LOW-GRADE PAINT
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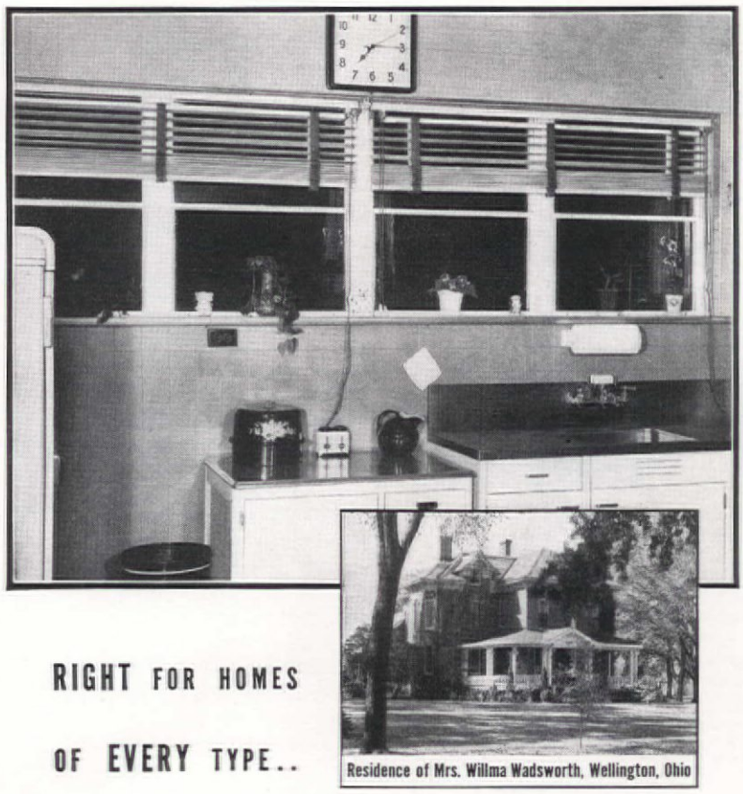
Photographs by Joseph C. Gilbert

My Favorite Carpet

BETSY PITCHER GILBERT

We are apt to refer blindly to tradition and quote unverified statements regarding hooked floor coverings, so it seems wise to make a broad statement that all hooked rugs and carpets are, in a way, products of other times. There have been, and will be in every episode of the hooked rug history, bad designs and unattractive combinations in color harmony as well as good ones. There are those very old carpets of yesterday with unusual appeal, their beauty most convincing, and there are homemade floor coverings today just as elegant and desirable in every way. However, new or old, they must possess certain characteristics in design and color—those important marks of distinction as well as beauty.

I sometime visit where there is a one-year-old hooked stair carpet, and, as I have a deep appreciation of such creations, I think it possesses all the charm, beauty, and distinctive characteristics one could possibly wish for. It was made by hand in the same manner as the old "pulled" rugs, and in the same manner, reveals its secrets of charm about its alluring beauty. Like most architects of today, the builder of this carpet turned to old traditions for suggestions. Upon research one finds that, in the middle of the eighteenth century, floral patterns for hooked rugs were quite the vogue. There was also a craze for designs of animals and household pets, and the patterns of ships and compasses were found on the old New England pieces. Indeed, symbolism,



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Here you see Aluminum Windows in the modernized kitchen of a fine old home. Though the exterior of the house retains its character, these windows blend perfectly with the style of fifty years ago.

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ALUMINUM WINDOWS

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says Mr. J. C. McCarthy, well-known building contractor of Trenton, N. J.

"I'VE BEEN in construction all my life. I think I know something about building—and insulating—a house. Enough so that I certainly wouldn't accept the builder's mere statement, 'Yes, this house is insulated.' I'd want to know five specific things about the insulation.

"First, how thick is it? Second, is it the batt-type insulation? Third, is it fireproof? Fourth, who is the manufacturer? And fifth, are the walls of the house insulated as well as the attic?

"I know these five points are vitally important. That's why I like J-M's 'Ful-Thik' Super-Felt Batt. It is fireproof, has full wall thickness, is factory built to uniform density and



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thickness, insuring greater insulating efficiency. This means *full* comfort on hot summer nights or bitter winter days—fuel savings up to 30%.

"J-M Super-Felt, the Improved Rock Wool, is the batt-type, which, per dollar invested, represents the *maximum* in insulation. It not only pays for itself, but soon begins to *put money back in the home owner's pocket.*"

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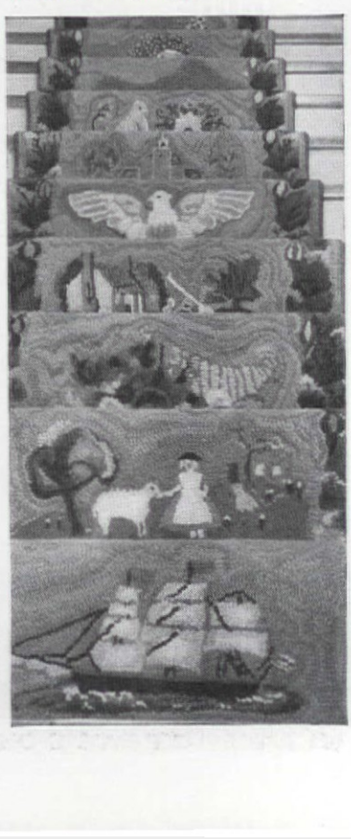
JOHNS-MANVILLE HOME INSULATION

(See advertisement on page 57 in this magazine for information on J-M Rock Wool Insulation for existing homes.)

sentiment, fact and fancy all had a part in the making of those floor coverings. Many of the homemade designs were patterned from the lovely old-fashioned garden with its big red roses, bluebells, forget-me-nots, fuchsias, hollyhocks, and morning glories. Such basic patterns were and still are used again and again, but are flexible in design in such an infinite variety of forms. They may be simple where simplicity in the furnishings of a Colonial house is essential, or even approach magnificence for a formal setting.

With the atmosphere of her home in mind, and traditional suggestions gathered from many sources, the builder of this carpet, combined them with long cherished ideas. That old-fashioned garden must have been in her mind for she introduced an effective rose border. Dusty pink and the rose shades were blended against a perfect light coffee-colored background. There are no harsh outlines and the harmony in colors arrests and delights the eye. Like motifs from old scenic wallpaper and toile, quaint designs appear from step to step. The horn of plenty is one of the many symbols reflecting an old pattern, and important as a personal touch is Mickey their cat.

Flannels of good quality were used in the construction of the carpet, the hooking is of very fine texture, and the background is worked in sort of a semi-swirl effect. So—the atmosphere of this hall with its refreshing pinkish ivory woodwork, came into existence because the procedure was fundamentally right. Blending with its surroundings, having that element of personal preference and all the charm of distinction, this new hooked carpet has not defeated its purpose.



Now **HEAT Basement Rumpus Rooms** *Quickly*



This **FIREPLACE** *warms every corner*

Build a Heatilator Fireplace and enjoy wider use of your basement recreation room. For the Heatilator Fireplace is *more* than just a fireplace. It actually *circulates heat*—warms every corner of the room both *quickly* and *thoroughly.* Architects and heating engineers will tell you it is the ideal way to solve the heating problem in basement rooms.



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HEATILATOR *Fireplace*

Tea tables can be different!

[*Continued from page 50*]

using colored wood appetize picks wrong way to, for spoon Come summer, serve both ice te with mint leaves and lemon an hot tea.

DAFFODIL TEA: A daffodil te speaks for itself. All the daffies yo can assemble in the height of th season, in your flower bowls, abou the rooms, and as a centerpiec for the table, interspersed wit flower candles, if you like. Sand wiches can be open face or gree tinted with cream cheese and may onnaise, or rolled with egg an green pepper filling. The "oh" an "ah" getters, though, are the daf fodil sandwiches—quite simpl and not expensive. Spread round of fresh white bread with butte and white cream cheese; cut daf fodils of thin yellow cheese, lay or using parsley stems or thin shred of green pepper for stems. Thi round slices of olive, ripe o stuffed, are buds, or choppe chives or parsley adds color con trast. Your butcher will slice th yellow cheese with his machine Use a seed catalogue for you profile daffodil design or dra from a fresh flower. Cut patter on white paper, and follo around with sharp paring knif Shrimps cut lengthwise, laid o open face sandwiches, make flow ers using watercress for leave and stems.

And here is possibly our favorite success story

[*Continued from page 25*]

shelter while we built the house

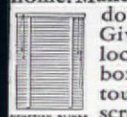
We scoured my father's too shed and dropped broad hint among our friends that any in strument that would hack, saw chop, or crush, was now a treas ure in our hands. The first Sun day on our property saw u staggering down the goat trai armed with sundry antique hoes axes, picks, and my great grand father's shovel. Half way dow the trail we became acquainte with the first rattlesnake we coul call our own. David, being capa ble of hitting a nail on the hea with the same facility that I ca hit my thumb with a hammer took on the task of transformin the old shakes from the defunc cow shed into a tool house an storage place for our bedding. picked the flatest spot near th creek, which happened to be a thicket of poison oak, and cleare it out for a camp site. Being a "native son," I am more or les immune to poison oak, but ap-

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PLASTIC WOOD

parently this poison oak decided to test me out. I had cause to remember it all the ensuing week. When the shed was built and the ground cleared, we dug a pit, lined it with rock, and put a sheet iron top on it for a cook stove. Then we rolled some small logs to bed size and filled in the space between with dried grass and leaves for mattresses. We were all set for our next trip, which was to be a full week end.

The next logical step was to have an easy trail. Neither of us had ever made a trail. The canyon we are in is heavily wooded in the lower portion and brush covered in the heights. California woods are almost impenetrable in their natural state because California brush is a tangled thicket of various shrubs anywhere from a foot to ten feet high. We struggled through these obstacles and surveyed our terrain, trying to decide the best way up to the county road. The general direction planned, we set to work. The first few weeks went with neatness and dispatch. At some places we had to crawl on our hands and knees to cut the brush ahead of us. We found that blisters would heal during the five days in town, but that nature grants no immunity and the succeeding two days of trail work brought them back with new vigor. Along about the fourth week end of this work its slow progress began to "get our goat." By that time we had got up through the woods and were in lower brush cutting through the most confounded roots. David and I both began to have ideas about how the work could go faster if different directions were taken. We had bought the place in early spring and we were now getting a bit more than we wanted of the heat we had longed for. Our tempers became frayed. I insisted that one direction was the right way to go and David insisted upon another. Neither would give an inch and would busy himself on his own project. Suddenly we would look up from our vicious whackings, find ourselves working parallel about six feet apart, grin at our own bullheadedness, and cut a trail across to join the two. We reached the top without committing murder or mayhem, and the erratic path still amuses us whenever we use it.

In our more amiable moments we decided that our temporary shelter should also be of fireproof material so we used corrugated iron to enclose a 7′ x 13′ floor area. An old redwood log was on the place and it provided timbers for the framework. The corrugated iron, 550 pounds of it, was carried down the trail slung in a harness between us, each load growing heavier than the last.



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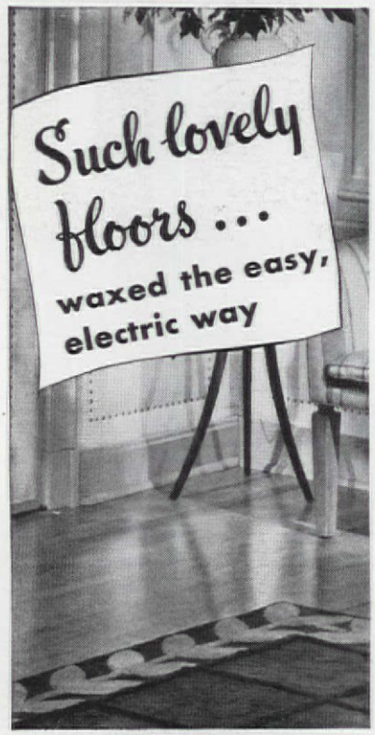
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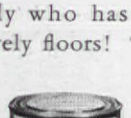
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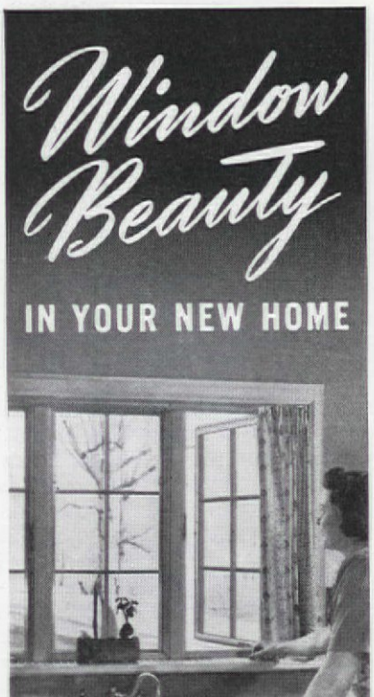
*City*_____ *State*_____

These iron sheets formed walls, roofs and a 4-foot door while an old china closet door became a window. Then we bought a metal wheelbarrow and a sack of cement to make mortar for a flagstone floor. I started down the trail with the cement in the wheelbarrow and I think my feet touched the ground twice during the time I made the half mile down to the canyon. The completed shelter needed to be furnished. More timbers were hewn to make two bunks and a kitchen range was bought and carried down the trail with great pain. It was so heavy that neither of us dared stop to rest for fear that we would not have strength enough to pick it up again. By this time we were ready to have a few visitors. Among the first was a middle-aged gentleman given to philosophizing. While he sat on a comfortable log and watched us hew planks out of a redwood log to make a table he observed, "All I thought you needed to have a place in the country was love of the birds, trees, and flowers, but I see it takes energy."

With the start of winter our corrugated iron shelter enclosed our cook stove, beds, dishes, valuable tools, and us. We bought a gasoline lantern and admired the beauties of its reflection on the unlined metal walls and ceiling. Our enthusiasm for this feature was tempered later when we discovered that the metal walls also reflected the roaring cook stove sufficiently to roast anyone near that side of the shelter while the opposite walls were like a refrigerator. During some rainy spells the heat would distill moisture on the ceiling but we always reasoned that the rain inside the shelter was probably milder than it was outside. With headquarters established, we started work on a real road instead of a trail.

With no more than a pick and shovel, a murderous looking brush hook and an axe, a year of week ends saw a road within a hundred feet of our house. We chose the shortest possible route, though while working on it, it seemed to stretch from here to nowhere. We realized we were building a pretty steep grade but had unflinching faith in the power of motor cars over gravity. Imagine our chagrin when, in the final stages of road building, the game warden surprised us at our task and haughtily said, "What are you going to use on this road, a tractor?" One never realizes how wide a car is or how much room it takes to turn one around. We thought we had provided for everything, in fact, it seemed more than ample while going through the process of picking and shoveling. Bravely, we started down the hill in our car, not knowing whether w would ever get it back up again We got down all right without much maneuvering, clearing a the banks, making all the curve and not going off the edge, whic in some places is a sheer drop o thirty or forty feet. When we go to the bottom however, we di not have room enough to turn around and had to dig our wa out. Much to our great joy, w made the top with very littl trouble. Low gear, of course, bu how much faster and easier it wa than walking.

Now the time had arrived t start our house. I can't remembe nor can David, ever having see stone masons work. We started i asking people who might know about such things and got so con fused that we were almost ready to give up the whole idea. We ha a long talk with a cement com pany and they gave us a littl book, but the most valuable ad vice came from one of their en gineers who told us in languag we could understand that ou stone must be clean and tha we must use coarse sand, the explained how to mix cement in proper proportions. Every blooming stone in the walls and they are eighteen inche thick, was put in a baby' bath tub acquired somewhere and scrubbed with water and coarse brush. We had severa choices of good sites to build on one under a great oak with magnificent view down the can yon to the Valley of the Moon but we deliberately built else where. We placed the house s that everything we see from it i our own. We wanted to get awa from the world and we have lot of fun, walking down the canyo and looking across the valley a sunset. The creek makes a ben through our property which end at a hundred-foot cliff over whic the creek falls. The present uni of the house is on a point of roc jutting in the creek near a lovel little pool. The walls of the livin room all rest on solid rock, i fact, the ceiling is four inche lower than we had planned, be cause a point of rock rose highe in the floor than we figured o and was so solid we couldn' whack it off with a sledge ham mer. The width of the room wa determined by the formation o the rock. One large part of th rock was left extending into th room and when the rest of th house is completed it will serv as a decorative end of a built-i couch. We also chose this sit because it is at the edge of ou only open grassy field and w have planned the house so tha the kitchen will extend toward the north into the woods, and th bedrooms, bath, and living room will get the sun. We did not wan



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a large house or a particularly large living room. We didn't plan to entertain large groups and if we do it will be during the summer when people will be out-of-doors anyway. Having lived so long in a studio which grew without planning, we wanted our house carefully plotted for ease of living and separation of functions. We wanted easy access to rooms throughout the house and to the outdoors and, above all, we did not want any room to serve as a hallway to get to another room. We also wanted our house to fit the topography of the land and we wanted to build as few walls as possible. We began making floor plans and tearing them up night after night. Finally David drew one up that met absolutely all our requirements. I approved and he triumphantly went to the movies for the evening. I sat admiring this fine creation and all of a sudden realized that with eighty acres of land he had drawn the bathroom smack in the middle of the house with absolutely no way of getting a window in it. We started all over again and achieved the final scheme, leaving the actual shape of the bedrooms to be determined when complete excavations are made down to the underlying rock of the hill. It has been a great advantage spending our week ends and short vacation periods on the property for three years before we started to build; for instance, the upper hallway is exactly on a trail that has been naturally worn to the swimming pool. Yes, we have managed to take time off for swims during our building activities. Indeed, our activities have been quite earthy and it has been necessary to swim as we haven't any shower as yet.

BEFORE we started construction I was wandering around San Francisco one day and, like most men, couldn't resist stopping to watch machinery demolishing two whole blocks of buildings to make room for a new rail terminal. Materials from the building were being whisked into another structure with a large sign saying "bargains in building materials." Of course I couldn't keep out of there and when I got in I telephoned David to come posthaste. I had found second-hand steel sash at less than the price of new wood sash. We bought what struck our fancy and then had to design the house around them. The only rub was that the building housing these bargains was about to be demolished too. There is no direct trucking service to our place, so we rented a drive-it-yourself truck and I, never having driven a truck before, had to take off in the snarliest midtown San Francisco traffic, with a load

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of steel sash, most of it still glazed—and a tough job it was.

The unit of the house now completed was a year and a half in construction. We learned a great many things. The best lesson we learned was *not* to have your friends help you no matter how willing they may be. We are amateurs and do things because we have become accustomed to doing them in one particular way. Our willing friends are amateurs too, and feel that maybe it would be better if we did things their way. My father was an amateur carpenter and at a very tender age I learned never to cross him while he was engaged in work. Relations were strained with some of our friends after arguing with them about something which could probably have been done their way as easily as ours. So we made a rule—guests were welcome to do any routine chores such as chopping wood, or washing dishes —or they could just sit and ruminate—but no one was to help us at building. We made one exception—plastering the walls seemed to require skill we did not possess. An artist friend who had experience plastering on murals did this job for us, using cement plaster which worked beautifully.

WE FOUND though that we just couldn't keep our hands out of the cement, because we wanted to learn how to use a trowel. During the building operation David took on the task of laying the stone while I mixed the concrete. His hands got to look like crocodile skin and we hit on the expedient of wearing rubber gloves for protection and over them canvas gloves for strength. Laying stone became an adult game of mud pie then. The method of construction was very simple. Instead of building a complete form we made an eight-foot square of two by fours which we would level up on the inside wall line. We would then use this as a sort of "backstop" and lay our stone against it, keeping the end of our stonework irregular so that the next portion of construction would not have a vertical joint. We would add sheathing boards to the frame as the walls rose and we never got the walls too high in one spot, but kept working around, getting them all up gradually. The stone is flat on two sides and was laid that way with plenty of cement mortar mixed in proportion of one to four. The stone is laid at random and varies in size from wafer-thin pieces to stones a foot and half thick, so heavy we could hardly lift them. We leaned over backwards to avoid having the house look consciously picturesque. The lines were to be clean and modern and the construction as slick as we

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could make it. As the house grew it got to look more and more like a transplanted pueblo. Showing pictures of our progress at a party one night someone said seriously, "What a beautiful site you have, and such magnificent ruins. Did you find them there?" That clinched the argument. The place was picturesque and we might just as well put up with it although the corrugated iron shed roof helped neutralize the pueblo look. Here again we were guarding against fire and although corrugated iron is supposed to make a house unbearably hot, the pitch of our roof gives a minimum air space of two feet. There are air vents at each end of the attic with one foot by three inch openings. The ceiling is one inch, tongue and grooved redwood with no other insulation. The whole house gets no shade, yet last fall we had the hottest weather ever recorded in this region and the house was always appreciably cooler than the outdoors. It is also easy to keep warm in winter.

Masonry is a grand medium for amateurs to work with. The living room was to have been twenty feet long but we made a miscalculation and found, after one wall was done, that it was six inches longer than it should be. All we had to do was make the other wall equal. But if we had been building our house of wood it would have affected all the sizes and shapes of our lumber. Like anyone else who has achieved something he is pleased with, we recommend masonry to everyone. And we also advise anyone to follow his own ideas in building. We did not know how to construct a road, build a masonry house, or design a fireplace. Yet we built them all and they work. A few questions here and there and a little experimentation and, despite mistakes, you should get pretty much what you want. One place to dodge experiments though, is in making a fireplace. Ours was based on a drawing an architect friend gave us of one that worked. We checked a government pamphlet in the library and found definite rules. Follow the rules and a fireplace will nearly always work. Ours does despite the fact that the chimney has not yet been brought to its really full height.

During construction, places and things began to acquire names. We called our property the "Ranch" but of course, it isn't a ranch in any sense of the word, and the usual Spanish names given to California country places seemed rather silly to us. We didn't want to have a Spanish name and not be able to carry on any further in the same language. Finally we named the ranch after our dog "Wooga." Remembering that the dog had attributes of a friend of ours who was lucky, it became "Wooga Luck." We have not yet found a name for the stone house. Maybe we had better get a cat.

THE living room unit and temporary kitchen were finished last winter. We thought a few week ends of painting and fixing would settle us and we could start on the next unit. During construction we talked of color schemes. We wanted colors which would reflect the soft yellow color of the dried grass on California hills and our true blue skies, so the walls were to be the yellow of dried grass, the ceiling sky blue. We moved into the house sans paint and got to love the natural gray of the cement walls. We also started to observe blue ceilings and saw how horrible they could be. When painting time came, we decided the walls should remain as nearly the same gray as possible and the ceiling should be a neutral buff. In the meantime we had suffered the first blow that is so familiar to week-end home owners. Though three miles from the nearest village and difficult to get to, our house had been burglarized and food and clothing taken. We made heavy plywood shutters for the full length living room windows. No allowance had been made in our stone walls for placing hinges, so we hit on the expedient of running heavy brass curtains rods vertically from the beam over the window to the floor and swung the shutters on them with heavy brass screw eyes. We found a particularly wonderful kind of paint that would cover any kind of surface in one coat, dry quickly, was washable, and without gloss. The only trouble was that it came only in white, and color had to be obtained by mixing pigments with it. We started with the walls and when they dried found that we had nearly approached the gray we wanted. Then the ceiling color carefully mixed, dried differently than we had planned, but was not bad so we let it go. Our woodwork color was a job because we wanted a natural redwood shade. We kept mixing pigments and throwing them out until we got so tired we chose a color that was nearly it. We had fussed until it was almost dark mixing the color and hastened to apply it. When we awoke in the morning our woodwork was pink, a sort of orchid pink. We gloomily left for town and were haunted for five days until we could remedy the mistake. It was righted by a rubbed application of burnt umber.

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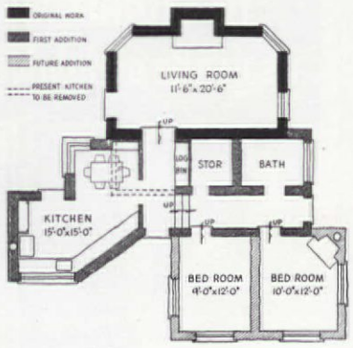
A-2

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den chairs, $2.95 each, and a second-hand gateleg table, $1, which we painted ceiling color. The gateleg table remains in the kitchen when not in use. We



bought a hideous dresser for next to nothing, clipped off its flaring top, amputated its bowed legs, rubbed it with our woodwork color and had a nice looking chest of drawers. I retrieved two willow-hooped imported chestnut barrels from the scrap heap of our Italian grocer and filled the tops of them with a half inch of concrete to give them weight, painted the top ceiling color, and use them for lampstands and coffee tables. A temporary bed was built in the corner where the built-in couch will be, and we placed a folding cot at right angles to it. The cot is one that folds toward the middle from each end and if someone sits on one end when it is open the other leaps up in the air. We cured this playfulness by folding up one end of the cot during the day, letting the mattress hang over it to the floor and allowing the other end to rest on the frame of the other bed. We use this corner arrangement for dining when we have guests, adding two chairs and our table. We found a beautiful selection of color in light weight denim for 29¢ a yard. Though it fades, we used it for all draperies and coverings. The texture of the material is particularly beautiful when the curtains are drawn and the sunlight filters through the blue draperies. Chair pads were made from ordinary mattress pad material and a denim slip cover. All the cushion covers have zippers and can easily be tossed into the washtub. The natural flagstone floor seemed a false note and for cleanliness we wanted a smoother surface. We got it by shellacking and waxing it, giving it color by adding dry burnt umber pigment to the shellac.

The few week ends allotted for decoration extended into the next spring. Then we arrived at the point where we could do no more but take stock and plan for the next operation. We hadn't kept any accurate accounts of cost but, checking back, found we had spent $300 during the building period and this included th major windows for the other unit still to be built. The money ha been spent in small quantities an at long enough intervals to be quit painless. There sat the beginnin of our house well nigh as solid a the Rock of Gibraltar, and bette yet it was paid for down t its meanest appurtenances.

The next unit of the house wil be the entrance hall, upper hall bath, storage area, and kitchen We will build it around that par of the entrance hall now servin as a temporary kitchen and no disturb our present kitchen unti all new walls are complete. Th pitch of the roof on this area wil follow that of the living room The roof of the bedrooms whic will be on a still higher level tha the upper hallway, will pitc back into the hill.

We have one confession t make. We hired a caterpillar trac tor to re-do our road, sheddin tears of rage when we saw i move with one snort as muc earth as we were able to move i an entire week end. So temptatio got the better of us and we had i come down to our stone hous and do the preliminary excava tion for the units to be added Then for our unfaithfulness th tractor punished us. She roare past our house, clamped on to th kitchen drain pipe and practicall yanked our whole temporar kitchen from its moorings. Pic and shovel were slow, but muc less destructive.

"Does a cellar recreation room pay its way?"

[*Continued from page 39*]

similar cupboard, built with a little stage for puppets or any other make-believe activity. The little door beneath the "stage" is large enough to permit a small child to enter so he can manipulate the "actors" from the rear, out of sight of the audience.

Between these two cupboards is a combination blackboard and Ping-pong table, attached to the wall but removable from it. When folded up against the wall, it is a good sized blackboard for the children to play with or for the adults to keep score on. When folded down, it makes a table surface for games or electric trains. And what a grand table for "Dad" to spread out that home-work that he occasionally brings home! When removed from the wall and placed in the center of the room, Ping-pong is in order.

The portable furniture we selected is conservative modern in maple, finished in a delightful light tone. Armchairs are upholstered in a sturdy green cotton

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material dotted with motifs in natural (like the Celotex walls) and in maroon. Arms are upholstered in maroon leather. Side chairs alternate between the snack bar and the play table. Accessories are kept to a minimum, just the necessary lamps and ash trays, so that at all times the "decks can be cleared for action." The green and maroon color scheme is carried out on the snack bar with green pottery and maroon table mats and napkins. Of course there is a radio, an essential in such a room.

The materials for walls and ceiling and labor for installing them are estimated to cost close to $100 in the Chicago area. Naturally they vary somewhat in different parts of the country. The built-in cupboards and combination blackboard and Ping-pong table (not included in the $100 estimate) are all simple, and could be built by the man of the house, if he is at all handy with tools. Naturally the number and arrangement of the cupboards depend upon the size and shape of the cellar, and the particular needs of the particular family.

Now, do you think *this* kind of a cellar recreation room will pay its way? Try to keep your family and friends out of it!

Nor would the unusual request for a cellar cabana "stump" us

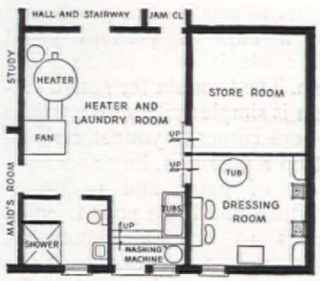
[*Continued from page 35*]

criticisms, and in this case good nature had its rewards. There was Ethel, for instance, who at a glance knew exactly what kind of shelves (to be used as lockers) we should have. And the yellow paint on the walls was scarcely dry before Bud began sketching in a panel of stylized flowers. Clever Cobe had an inspiration for a tub, made from a sawed-off barrel, to be plainly marked "FOR YOUR WET SUIT." And, of course, we'll need a long dressing table with at least two mirrors. You know, just from the Five and Ten, but you can paint a scallop around them. And don't forget hooks—

It was such fun. Everybody dropped in to help. Never before had I realized what talent there was hidden in my friends. The project grew, expanding from Swedish to internationalism. As long as it was colorful any sketch was harmonious to the scheme. Soon the ideas covered the little room (9′ x 10′) and spilled over into the laundry room outside—now dull and drab by comparison with the red, blue, and yellow glow from the dressing room.

There were those seven doors! Presto, the transformation took place. No longer mere doors, but murals telling a lively story. Sally, Poppy, Betty Lou, Ann, Dell, Bede, and Bud took a door apiece. With the promise of strawberry shortcake and coffee as a reward, they worked late into the night. I have absolutely no skill myself in painting, but I have become an expert in giving assignments to others.

"Now, children," I said, "why don't you paint something on the panel of each door which will indicate the nature of the room into which it opens?" This pedagogic



command had a momentarily deadening effect, but they heeded my words. There before me the figures grew. On the door leading into the dressing room Poppy brought back to life one of those modest but voluptuous Victorian bathing gals. Dell, who writes Paul Bunyan stories, tossed off a sketch of that stalwart woodsman with his axe firmly in hand to show you where to get wood for the fireplace. With feminine familiarity Bede chose the jam closet door—and visitors are always asked to guess what's behind those dainty sketches of fruit as it appears first on the stem and as it looks later in the jar. Bud, who knows traffic officers rather intimately, drew a Washington State Highway patrolman whose hand, grown to Gargantuan proportions from daily reprimanding, keeps all people in wet suits from entering the house proper. No one would dare go through that stop sign! A startled baby-faced little girl, caught bathing in her old-fashioned wooden tub which leaks soapy water, shows you where to take your shower. Our maid, Clara, ought not to have any strangers mistaking her room for anything else as her name is painted on her door in true Swedish style with garlands of dainty flowerets entangling the letters. Lastly, the way to the lake is indicated by such a beautiful mermaid. She sits there in aquamarine serenity, her Lorelei locks streaming in the water. And you follow—but to fun not doom.

Yes, it is a success. The "club members" are using the room now every day. There are towels on the shelves, powder on the dressing table, a row of hooks on the

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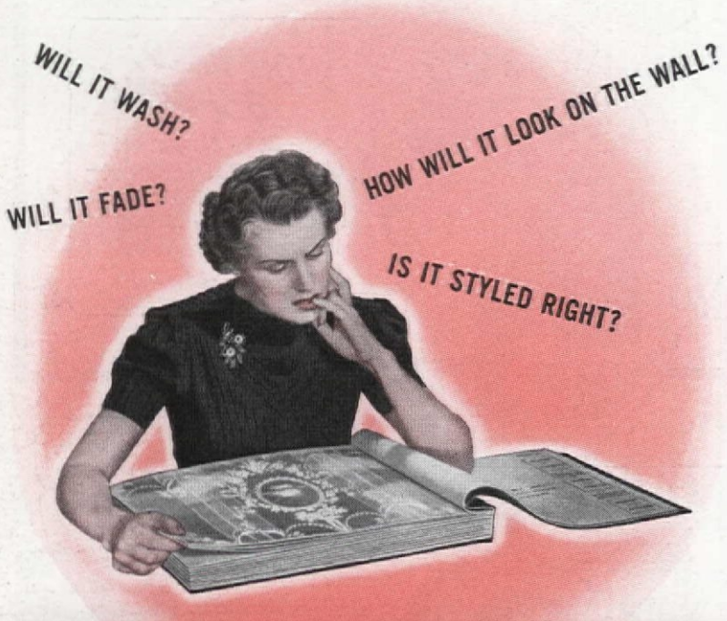
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wall. They had fun working on it and so did we. I filled in where my artistic friends stopped. For instance, I copied the old New England custom of disguising washtubs. Using the same material as that in the curtains I made a saucy skirt for them. Then I covered their plywood top with light blue oilcloth, scalloped in keeping with the dressing room molding. With left-over yellow paint I gaily daubed all conspicuous pipes.

So I pass the idea along. Maybe you don't care for a dressing room for bathers, but would prefer to heed the plea of one of my husband's university colleagues to convert this gay corner into a bar. Or perhaps you'd rather use it as a child's playroom. The formula for such a creation is simple: pile all the trunks into one corner of your storeroom, put up a partition, buy about $15 worth of paint and unfinished furniture, and bribe your talented friends to do the decoration. Whether it turns out to be a cabana or just a fancy place for the children's rainy day games makes no difference—you'll still have an extra room and lots of fun using it.

Case II . . . . Post-earthquake Berkeley

[*Continued from page 23*]

old hit and miss sash sizes. Now the house is fresh, new in feeling, has a definite Colonial character and is completely satisfying in design and plan.

There is no feeling whatever that this is a made-over house as you enter the attractive hall just inside the front door. Pale green paper with a white Colonial motif covers the walls, the wood trim is white, and the pleasing colors of the Oriental rug on the floor add just the right note to this hall which serves as your introduction to the house. The stairway leads off the hall from the right and is of interest because of the long French windows which encircle it as it curves to the second story. Opening off the hall to the left is the living room which makes you exclaim immediately, "This is just the kind of room I'd like to live in."

The walls of this room are canvas covered and are painted a dull gray-green, with the wood trim the same color. For contrast the doors and mantel of the fireplace are painted white. The fireplace end of the living room is opposite the main entrance and is so attractive in its planning that it was worth all the remodeling the McEneanys undertook to get it. Two small paned windows above built-in bookshelves on either side of the fireplace make possible wide ledges for books and flowers. A blue-green broadloom rug is on the floor and at the windows are printed draperies with blues, greens, and peach shades on a tan background. The sofa at the right of the fireplace is covered in gold figured damask and has mahogany end tables with matching lamps, at either end. Across the room is a lovely old mahogany secretary and in front of it are two barrel-backed chairs covered in a figured damask in a cedar shade with a coffee table between them.

A DOOR on right leads to the dining room, which has been transformed by the addition of a new fireplace and two built-in corner cupboards with a blue facing behind the shelves. A taupe broadloom rug covers the floor, while on the walls a figured paper with a warm cream background is just right for this room.

French doors open off the dining room to the new study or sunroom. Here French windows, which were originally used in the old dining room, were placed on the side wall. Wherever possible, Mr. Anderson made use of material in the old house to cut expenses, and in this case it proved a happy thought, for the large windows bring sun into the room practically all day. Venetian blinds are at the windows and printed draperies in tan, brown, and orange tones are hung behind a white valance board. Bookshelves against the yellow tinted walls are on the left side of the room. Here the walls are painted a chocolate brown and the same color is used successfully for the slip cover on the davenport. A comfortable chair, covered in the same material as the draperies, and a drop-leaf antique table complete the grouping in front of the windows. Over the garage is a large sun deck opening off the study. There are pots of geraniums around the edge and the roof serves as an outdoor living room during the warm months.

From the dining room a hall leads to the kitchen, maid's room, and bath. This part of the house was left untouched as far as radical changes went, and the McEneanys wisely have put aside the remodeling they intend to do here until they have completed all they plan in the way of furnishing the living quarters.

On the second story are three bedrooms, two baths, and a sleeping porch. The master bedroom with its dressing unit is of special interest because it shows what good planning can do. Instead of placing the dressing unit in the new end of the room, the architect decided to remodel the part

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of the bedroom on the north side. This made possible a fireplace at the end of the master bedroom and the arrangement of the room as a combination bedroom and upstairs sitting room.

The dressing unit, painted a peach shade, includes wardrobes for both Mr. and Mrs. McEneany, a built-in dressing table at the end with ample drawer space beneath and adjoining it a bathroom which may be entered directly from the bedroom or from the dressing room, which also has its own door opening off the main room.

A pleasing color combination has been worked out in this spacious upstairs room. There is a brown broadloom rug on the floor, a soft blue paper on the walls, a deep blue homespun cover on one chair, and a yellow chintz on the love seat. At the windows are full dotted ruffled curtains and on the twin spool mahogany beds are very simple tufted candlewick spreads.

Opening onto the upstairs hall is the original bath which now serves as a children's bathroom. At the end of the hall is one daughter's bedroom done in yellow and white, while the other daughter's room directly opposite the bath is done in peach and blue. Each room is attractively furnished with a white single bed, a small upholstered barrel slipper chair, dressing table, and chests and shelves.

A young Chicago couple go out to the Puget Sound country

[*Continued from page 19*]

small bird pool, is thirteen by fourteen feet and has six casement windows; the outlook from every window is a picture and I never weary of planning for added attractions. An additional building houses my husband's office, the garage, the woodshed, and a small room for the starting of early seeds and plants. This building has proved a joy.

The pheasants (called "chinks" around here) are flushed up on all sides as Fritz, our police dog, and his master walk along the trails, and coveys of quail by the score come to my window to feed. We never kill these visitors and they return each year. Rustic tables, arbors, settees, and chairs make the outdoor sitting room a place for many guests, as well as ourselves, to relax in during the summer months; and dozens of them come on Sundays in April when the lilacs, spireas, tulips, iris, and daffodils make the garden beautifully fragrant and colorful.

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"HURRY-UP" PARTY SUGGESTIONS



DEE SPENCER

"WHAT are we going to do tomorrow night when the crowd comes over?" That's the eternal question, especially when the Robinsons don't play bridge and the Hardwickes talk so much about their son Paul that there has to be special activity to keep their minds off the little darling.

"Of course we could play Bumbo but I get tired of playing the same game all evening long." We all do. There is nothing deadlier than having to play one game from nine o'clock until midnight—even if you do have a charming hostess and a tall cool drink. A change of pace helps keep the party alive. Three or four different games or stunts keep everybody awake and if one person doesn't happen to like Alphabet Fun, for example, maybe he will excel in some other game.

You start your Hurry-Up Party with Alphabet Fun. Give each guest a pencil and a sheet of paper which is folded ready to be torn in half. To explain the game, write down four or five words, eliminate one letter wherever it appears in the sentence, and copy the remaining letters, with no spaces between to show the various words, on the other half of the paper. The object is to discover the missing letter and make sense out of the conglomeration. For example, write down: "four foolish funny faces." Then eliminate the "f's": "our oolish unny aces." Then copy them as follows: "ouroolishunnyaces." After each person writes down such a conglomeration he passes it to the one on his right, who tries to solve the mess.

People like to win ribbons, so get some colored ribbon or used colored paper and award the first person to finish a blue ribbon, the second a red one, and the third yellow or green. If you don't want to bother about getting various colors just award three ribbons for first prize, two for second, and one for third.

Alphabet Fun can be played two or three times, but don't let it drag. It usually pays to repeat games similar to this one at least once because those who are slow to catch on the first time get into their stride on the second round.

After this warm-up give them the following thought provoker: In a bathing beauty contest the Misses Andrews, Babcock, and Curtis represented Chicago, New Orleans, and Cleveland (not necessarily respectively) and wore red, blue, and orange bathing suits (but not necessarily in order mentioned). Which girl represented which city and what color suit did she wear? Use the following clues:

1. Miss Andrews is taller than Miss Cleveland.
2. Miss Curtis borrowed some lipstick from Miss Chicago.
3. Miss Curtis was queen of the annual Mardi Gras in her city.
4. Miss New Orleans' suit matches her eyes, while Miss Chicago's suit matches her hair.

The problem is really simple but most people try to solve it the hard way. The answer is: Miss Andrews: Chicago, red suit. Miss Babcock: Cleveland, orange suit. Miss Curtis: New Orleans, blue suit.

Distribute the ribbons to the first three finishers and then try another thought provoker, which is a little bit harder.

Mrs. Astor had five servants: a butler, chauffeur, gardener, cook, and maid. She always called them by their last names which were Adams, Bates, Caldwell, Daniels, and Ellis, although the servants called each other by their first names which were: Alice, Paul, John, Mary, and Tom. Give each person's full name and position. Your clues:

The butler was in love with Alice, the maid.

Daniels borrowed Caldwell's apron.

Paul criticized Adams for wearing a dirty uniform.

Alice was Ellis' sister-in-law.

Caldwell was the cook.

Adams and John lived above the garage.

The answers are: Butler: Paul Bates. Chauffeur: Tom Adams. Gardener: John Ellis. Cook: Mary Caldwell. Maid: Alice Daniels.

You need a change in pace now, so have everybody take the words "news tip" and write out a word or other words using those letters. Give them three or five minutes to do it. Each one who has a word nobody else has gets a blue ribbon while those who

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have a word just one other person has get a red ribbon as a prize.

There are a great many possible combinations to work out. If you have some time before the party you might get some gummed paper and print "NEWS TIP" in good size letters and then cut them apart so that each person will have the set of seven letters to work with. This makes the game seem more interesting and gets in a little variety. When the participants select their words they paste them on a piece of paper which you've provided.

The thinkers have had their inning so let's give the muscle men theirs. Put a shallow ash tray in the middle of the room and have each one in turn stand above the tray and drop a paper clip into it holding the hand level with the waist. Test it out ahead of the party so that you can select an ash tray shallow enough so most of the clips will bounce out.

Before the party copy off the following quotations so that each one is spread over three or four lines, and then cut the lines apart. Make one set of quotations for each person who will participate.

"There is a wide difference between seeing through a thing and seeing a thing through."

*

"The man who knows a lot but only does a little doesn't get as far as the man who only knows a little but does a lot."

*

"You do not need to conquer the world—conquer yourself and your world is conquered."

Mix up the lines on a table and have each person pick out and match up the lines, all starting at one time. There will be plenty of scrambling to pep things up. Award ribbons to the first three who complete the three quotations in the right order.

If you still have time for one more stunt, clip out from advertisements about three or four pictures of people who have various facial expressions. For example, somebody who looks happy, sad, stern, etc. Then display the pictures one at a time and have everybody write down in a sentence or two what the person in the picture is saying or thinking. The object is to be original and clever. It is a good idea to have each picture numbered and have everybody number his caption to correspond. When you have displayed all the pictures, each person passes his paper to the right and then all the captions for picture No. 1 are read, then No. 2, etc. Take a vote to decide the best ones.

By this time your guests have earned a rest and perhaps refreshments—and the Hardwickes can start thinking about little Paul.

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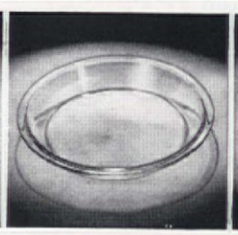


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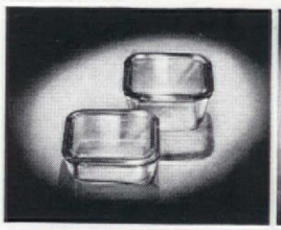
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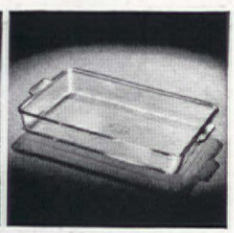
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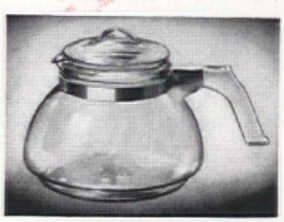
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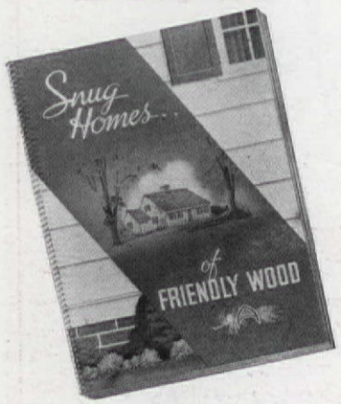
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You don't have to wait until you can afford what you want!

[*Continued from page 31*]

want will not deal us the crushing financial blow that its present purchase would.

From time to time we invested in small quantities of lumber of various kinds, new and used, soft and hardwood, as the situation seemed to require. Other items acquired in due course were twenty-five yards of good quality leatherette, nails, screws, glue, six folding bridge chairs, four sample broadloom pieces, drapery material, and an old screen. Tools, some of which we borrowed from a friend, included a good saw, plane, hammer, chisel, brace and bits, awl, screw driver, square and rule.

How we converted our monstrosities into good livable furniture is the second part of the story—and here goes!

Our initial effort was the chair. We simply knocked off both arms completely, leaving the seat and back only. Then we cut off all the legs to give it a low-slung appearance. Two by fours, placed front and back under the frame of the chair, extending about eight inches beyond the edge of the upholstery, were secured with long heavy screws. This gave us a base to work on. Then we built two boxes out of 1"x6", open at each end, and screwed these to the eight-inch projecting two by fours. These formed the arms. Next we filled in the sides of the arms with heavy cardboard. Similarly we straightened the extreme back of the chair into a good line with the same material.

Then my wife went to work on the upholstering job. The horsehair out of the arms went right back into the sides of the seat cushion to make it big enough for the now much enlarged chair. She covered all the framework with old pieces of material, adding horsehair covered with kapok to the tops of the arms. The arms she upholstered in green frieze, and the seat and back in green and gray striped homespun. Next we covered the studio couch with the same green frieze that we used on the arms of the chair and trimmed it with white tufting to create a square effect.

Then followed a series of face liftings that turned our apartment into a veritable workshop. For six weeks the living room was a shambles of lumber, tools, leather, nails, screws, and fragments of furniture. But it was grand fun!

I attacked the high old bed and sawed fully four feet off the head and about eighteen inches off the foot, as well as all the legs, allowing the side boards to rest about a half an inch from the floor. The hardwood veneer recovered from the amputation proved ample to fill in the inset panels, creating the effect of solid two-inch thick head- and footboards. Off-white leatherette covered them. Since we used a great deal of this material I'll describe our method of handling it.

The kind we used is known as "Spanish grain" and can be bought at any large department store, in various grades and weights in a wide price range. What we selected is a standard product made by a well-known firm. It cost 91 cents a yard. We used a liquid glue, applied with a brush to the wood which we wished to cover, laying the leatherette in place while the glue was still wet. We carefully measured the surface to be covered, allowing a margin so the raw edge would not show. This turn-back is easy to master with a little practice. The trick is to get the edges folded into position before applying the glue so you know how they will set most effectively. We found we could put the leatherette on any smooth surface.

In the old round dining room table we had seen the possibility of a dressing table. We removed the top from its base and unscrewed the mechanism that allows the table to slide apart to admit the leaves. Then we had two half circles with a six-inch skirt on each. The circular skirt from one of these, when reversed and screwed back on the other half circle, formed the base of the dressing table. We cut the remaining half circle in half again, using one for the higher side of the table and the other for the seat of the stool. We upholstered the latter with kapok and covered both pieces with leatherette. Two large full length mirrors, which we picked up for $5 the pair, set off the ensemble and created an illusion of space in the room.

The maple dresser required quite a program of face lifting. We sawed off the legs and projecting edges and removed the hardware. To achieve a long low appearance, we built two boxes and screwed one on each end of the dresser. The resulting chest, six feet in length, fills the north corner of the room from wall to door. We were able to make the doors and grill from the weird dining room piece fit the two end cupboards, by cutting off a small margin all around them. We were somewhat skeptical about the success of leatherette on the drawers, but it turned out quite well. Our guardian angel seemed to be with us again, because they are snug, but not tight enough to cause trouble. Mop handles from



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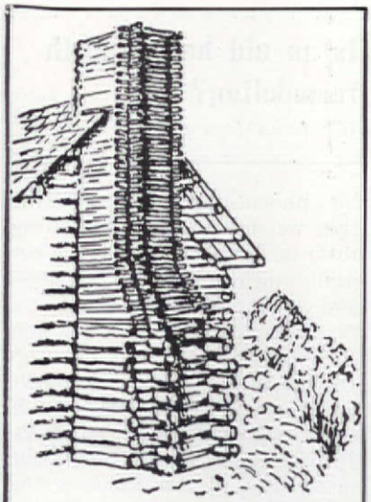


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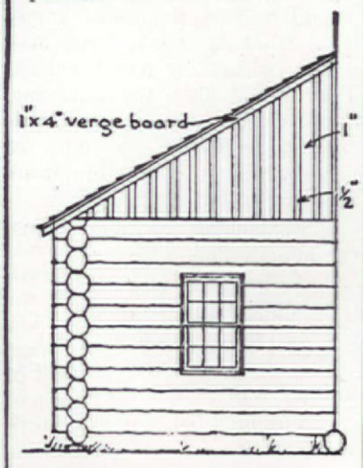
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the grocery store, at a cost of seven cents each, made effective hardware. These we enameled mulberry to match the solid color crash bedspread and ivy leaf patterned draperies.

We flanked the bed with two night tables, also covered with leatherette, made very simply from 1"x14" used lumber. The two lamp bases on these were painted off-white to match the furniture and topped off with shades from the dime store. My wife removed the trimming and substituted our own tufting, left over from the edging of the studio couch. Two good quality broadloom sample rugs were ours for $9 the pair on sale. These repeated the mulberry accent of the bedroom.

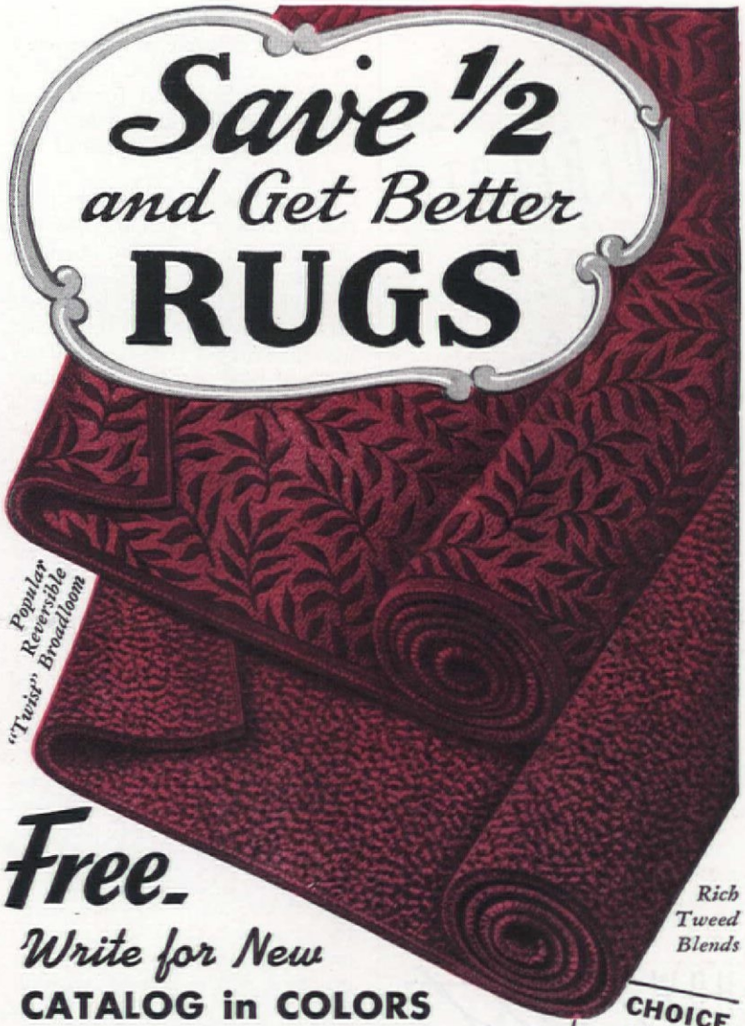
Having swept up the sawdust and removed the glue spots from the floor with gasoline, we returned to the living room, cluttered with junk, but resplendent with its green frieze chair and studio couch.

You have been wondering, no doubt, why the landlady didn't throw us out for disturbing the peace. We had told her that we were going to make a great deal of noise, and we didn't disappoint her. Indeed she became so interested in her new tenants' eccentricities that she came up every night to see what new brainstorm was brewing. Moreover, to limit the noise, we stopped hammering and sawing promptly at ten P. M. During the early hours of the evening my wife sewed or upholstered, when she wasn't holding something in place for me. At ten P. M. we both worked together applying leather.

Our next creation for the living room was made out of the commode which I have mentioned before. We got a bigger laugh out of this atrocity than anything else we transformed. It was the epitome of ugliness, this high-legged, scrawny, household monstrosity. So we sawed off the legs, knocked out the two left-hand compartments, from which we had already removed the doors, trimmed down the edges of the top with saw and plane, filled in the panels with ¼" plywood and covered the whole thing with leather. And behold! A desk. It wasn't a difficult undertaking if we discount the sawing involved in removing the edges from the bone-hard solid walnut top. That was a job!

We had, with wishful thinking, considered a long dining room table with an inch-thick black glass top. The cost of a top of this kind (I won't mention the figure) is colossal. So we cut down one of the two telephone booth panels to approximately 3'x7' to form the top. The other panel yielded double thickness solid end

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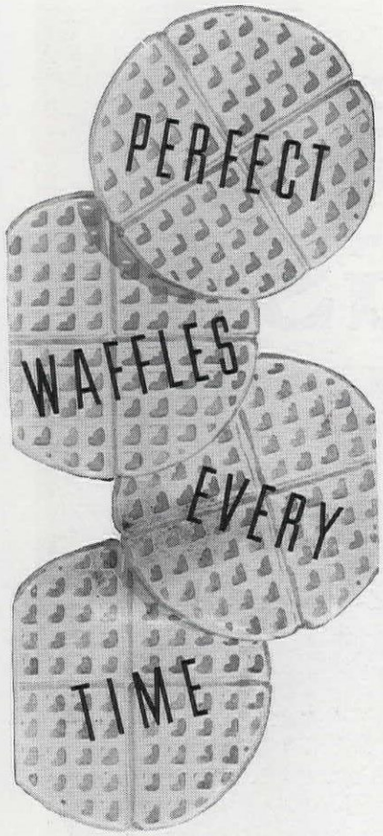
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legs and flat supports on the floor. This type of table is strong, easy to construct, and good looking. A five dollar bill paid for it, and we had sufficient lumber left over to make the top and base of our coffee table.

The coffee table certainly is of composite construction. The old dining room table that gave us our semi-circular dressing table also yielded a square base that served admirably for the heavy upright support. The commodious top will hold a satisfactory number of magazines, newspapers, ash trays, and whatever else the occasion demands.

The end table beside the Chesterfield chair was made from new ¾" plywood, at a total cost of approximately five dollars, including the leather. The middle shelf of this we made to accommodate the exact height of our radio. This little fellow, our only piece of furniture when we moved into the attic apartment, we enameled off-white to blend into the surroundings.

Our studio type couch presented an upholstery problem which we reserved until the last. We covered the wooden boxlike base and back with dark red leatherette. Then my wife sewed the cases for the two large seat and four back cushions on her machine, at the cost of a couple of broken needles and some slightly frayed nerves.

Six folding bridge chairs, with leatherette seats and backs in the same dark red color as the couch, seemed appropriate for dining and general use. We caught them on sale for $1.50 each.

There remained then only a few details to adjust. Those ornate wall light fixtures, on either side of the fireplace and in the bedroom, we covered with ground glass panels, supplied for a few cents by a friend in the ornamental glass business. An old screen, brightened up with new leatherette, served to hide the sewing machine.

Now that our plan is essentially complete, let's sit back and count the cost. Our figures for everything, including tools, materials, old furniture, to remodel, and incidentals of all kinds, exclusive of our labor, amounted to less than $140.00! A furniture bargain you will have to admit.

If you are interested in but hesitant about embarking upon a plan such as we have carried out, consider the fact that I am neither a carpenter nor a cabinetmaker and that my wife is certainly not an upholsterer. Anything that we have done can be duplicated and improved upon by any two people who can saw a straight line and sew a plain seam. And furthermore, believe us, it's really a barrel of fun!

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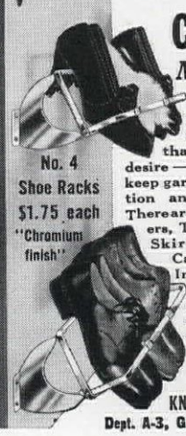
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Is an old house worth remodeling?

[*Continued from page 23*]

by present-day standards but they weren't bad houses. Viewing them for the first time, seeing beneath their gingerbread gables and curlicue porches, you realized that just a little subtraction and addition would freshen them up and transform them into houses which would be livable even if they weren't architectural gems. But there they sat with their taxes going up, the value of the property going down, and any hope of getting any income from them fading away.

Discerning real estate men will tell you that some of these houses are the best home bargains available today; many of them are for sale at half their replacement value. Frequently their construction is as sound as a bell, having been built of the best materials available by the best methods possible in their day. Their interiors are often roomier than those built now and their ceilings extra high, features which can be a decorative and comfortable asset, not a drawback. A little skillful rearrangement of the interior is usually the most essential change needed. The old front and back parlor arrangement of many of them can be made into one good size living room and some of the over generous space allotted to kitchen and pantry can be transferred to other uses.

Building materials manufacturers as well as banks are trying to help resuscitate these older homes. One of them conducted a survey among realtors, financiers, architects, builders, and building materials dealers on rental values. They found that the following improvements were most important in increasing the rent or value which is obtainable from an older house:

1. Replanning or rearranging the interior floor plan.
2. Adding a third bedroom.
3. Adding an extra bathroom.
4. Installing automatic heat.
5. Redecorating the woodwork, interior walls, etc.
6. Finishing the attic to provide extra space.

Banks and loan associations are usually favorably disposed towards loaning money to fix up such older properties. The Federal Housing Administration issues a list of the repairs, alterations, and improvements which can be made under their property improvement plan, and they insure loans made by accredited agencies to responsible persons for these various improvements.

The AMERICAN HOME Magazine Plans a Versatile Game Room with Celotex Interior Finishes





It's Ready for a Rumpus

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*The Celotex Insulating Interior Finishes That Make This Attractive Basement Room Cost $71.68**

THE EDITORS of *The American Home* Magazine contend that a Recreation Room should definitely be a "family affair." So they planned this room to provide for a *variety of activities*—designed it with an eye on the whims, wants and hobbies of folks of all ages.

By day this room can be "*taken over*" by the youngsters—toys, trains, tools, games, vehicles and nondescripts may clutter the floor. At night they can be tucked away in built-in lockers. Then out comes a Ping-Pong table or a movie projector—informal dancing may be in order—or just Bridge. And if it's a *real event*—refreshments can be prepared and served at the Snack Bar!

A Recreation Room like this one can be built for *your* family in *your* basement at a price far less than you'd think. For the walls and ceiling are Celotex Insulating Interior Finishes — modern materials that build, decorate and provide permanent insulation—all *at one low cost!*

Celotex Insulating Interior Finishes do triple duty also, when used to create other types of rooms—when you remodel or wish to add a bedroom in waste attic space. Or they can be *applied right over existing finishes*, to bring new comfort and beauty to any room! They'll help to keep the house warmer with fuel savings in winter—shut out excessive summer heat. These, and other advantages are *guaranteed in writing for the life of the building*†.



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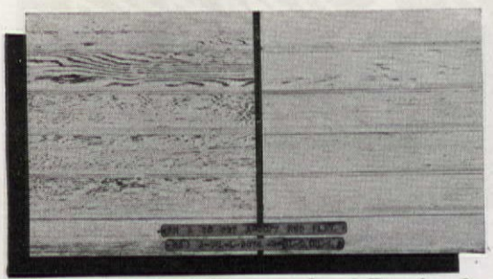
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What a Difference! Test panels of Douglas fir siding after six years outdoors facing sun, rain and snow at U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis. Left, painted with ordinary type first coat and two white topcoats. Right, with Aluminum first coater and same two white topcoats.

You save money on upkeep by using Aluminum House Paint for your first coat. It lengthens the time between repaintings.

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It's the money-saving way to paint new homes. Also, in repainting houses that have been neglected, use an Aluminum first coater on sills and sash and on the south and west sides where exposure to weather is most severe. Where existing paint is sound, Aluminum House Paint is unnecessary.

Write for recommendations if you have had paint trouble. Also, get the book "*15 Years Behind the Brush*". PAINT SERVICE BUREAU, ALUMINUM COMPANY OF AMERICA, 2105 Gulf Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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LOOK for the label with the silver disc and wood grain, shown below, when you buy. Paint so labeled is genuine Aluminum House Paint, made specifically for use on wood, by:

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An Indoor-Outdoor Pool

Those yawning cellar window areas, oftentimes dangerous and usually very unattractive, can be camouflaged. Here is an ingenious way in which one home owner solved this difficult problem

DIXON MICHAEL

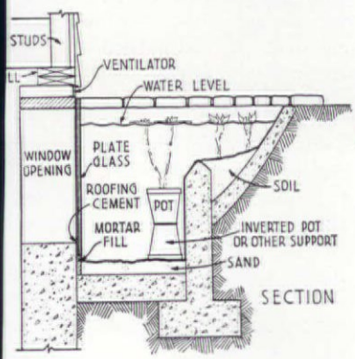
As long as there are cellar windows below the ground line, here will be areaways of one kind or another; when one of the ugly and yawns its eight or more cubic feet of void right beside a porch or in a flagstone terrace, it is nothing short of insulting to a sensitive home owner.

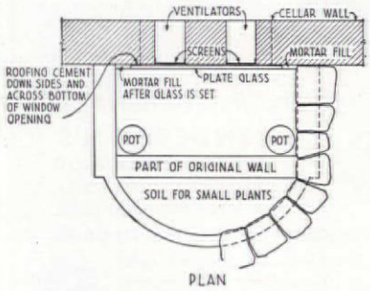
To the various solutions that have been worked out to conceal or make more attractive these troublesome voids may I add a scheme which I devised three years ago after having tried the same worn and practically worthless shrubbery screen idea. Though this scheme of mine calls for a sacrifice of the privilege of opening the window involved, ventilation may still be provided in a manner less obtrusive than that of the conventional hole and window; and the problem of light in the cellar is not affected.

If you adopt this suggestion, you will have not only a small pool to enjoy from the outside, but also an aquarium to view from the inside, if you want to take the trouble to go down cellar and watch, as I do frequently.

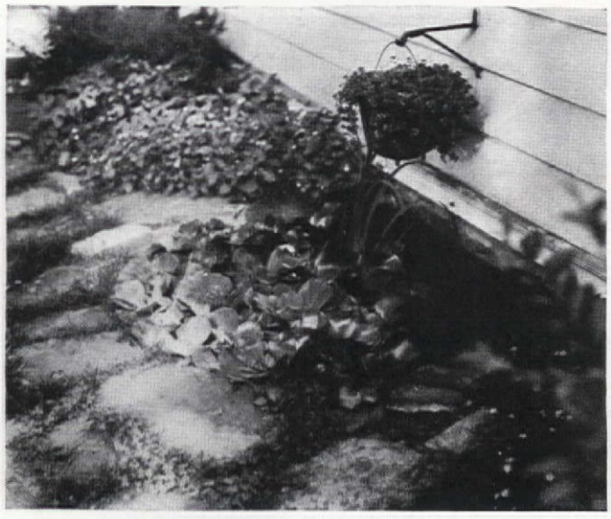
The photographs and accompanying sketches tell most of the story. I broke out a vertical crescent, about six or eight inches deep in the center, in the long side of the concrete wall of the archway that the contractor had put in before I realized how unsightly it would be. Then I dug out the soil from the curved addition, lined this new excavation and the bottom of the original area with a small mix of concrete, plastered all the inside with a coating of good mortar, and carefully set in a piece of heavy plate glass over the window opening as described farther on.

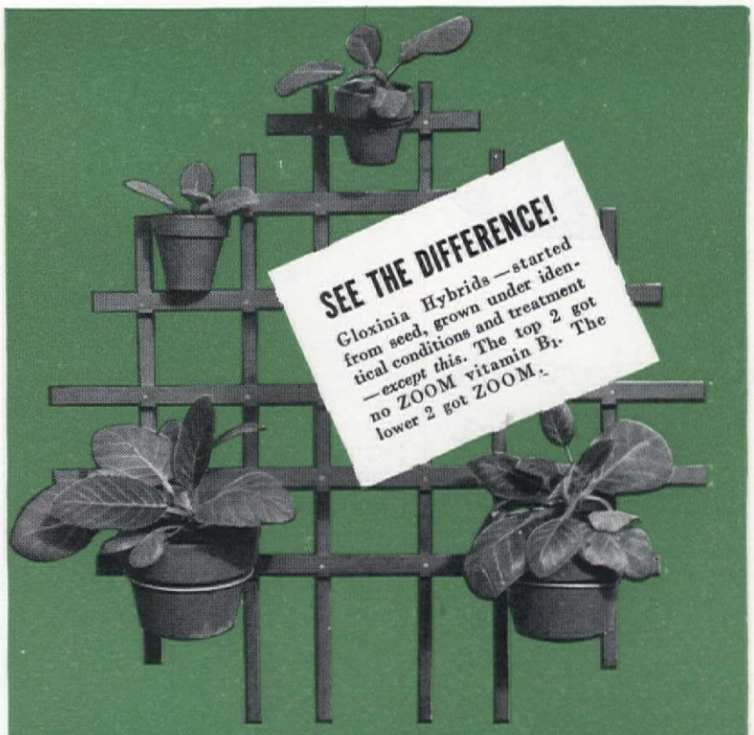
The plate glass job is the only tricky touch. Before you tackle it, decide whether you want a ventilator or two right over the pool. If so, arrange them first. I knocked out two bricks in the foundation and slipped in their places pieces of copper screen with the edges turned in at right angles to form open boxlike affairs of just the





Photographs and drawings by the author





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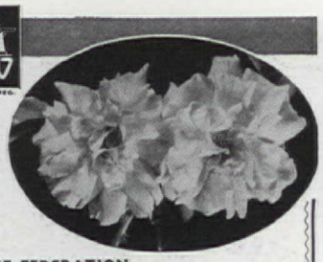
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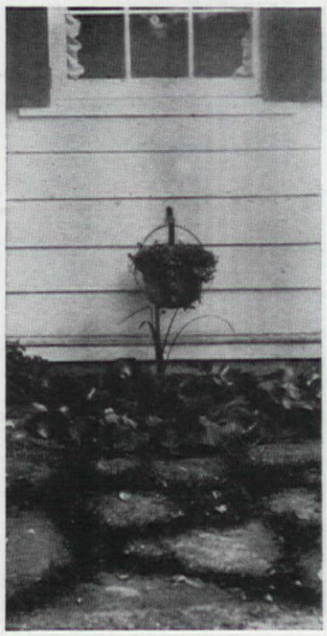
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right size. They can be made to fit snugly enough to keep out insects and in winter the holes can be stopped from the inside with rags or wooden plugs. The ventilators need not be right over the pool, of course, but that location is best if your house is of wood and if termites inhabit your neighborhood.

The most expensive item is the plate glass, but I secured for half price a piece salvaged from some large window. As I said, sealing the glass to the wall is the real trick, for it goes without saying that you want no water leaking into the cellar. I used roofer's cement which is cheap, plastic, and sticky. Put on a good thick



Here is one cellar window that will never again be an eyesore

layer, as uniformly as possible, but make it wedge-shape, with the thin part around the edge of the window opening and the thicker part an inch or so away from the edge. Then, when you press the glass into place, the cement will not squeeze out over the cellar side of the glass. (It's a mess to get off.)

As soon as the glass is in place, I recommend filling the pool with water. Its pressure can do a far better job than you can in pressing the glass firmly home without breaking it. Some minor leaks may show up, but put up with them for a while until the tar compound has set. Of course, if they are serious ones, you will have to try again.

To stop the minor leaks and insure doubly against their future recurrence, it is advisable, after a few days, to siphon out the water and fill in between the edges of the glass and the side walls and bottom with good mortar. When this has thoroughly set, its con-

[*Please turn to page 118*]

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We Build a BIRDBATH

JOHN ELMORE

For many years my mother had followed the plans for the landscaping of her place of two acres in Maryland, near the national capital. Her lily pool had been duly built; there were rose arbors, flagstone walks, little paths bordered by evergreens, a rustic side gate with a latchstring for old neighbors, a summer house, and formal flower beds, not to mention the rock garden. We would go down for vacations and we would go over the place together, studying the effects as things took shape.

On one of these occasions as we walked around to the side of the house where the circular driveway came in from the lane, I noticed that she had planted some flowering shrubs and small trees to hide a small propagating house and other "informal" things and had followed this up by planting along the near edge of the driveway and along the lane, thus forming an isolated little nook. Neither part of the formal front nor of the informal rear, it was obscured from sight and sound by the shrubbery on three sides and the house on the fourth. But what to do with it? . . . At last we decided that it would make an excellent bird garden and winter feeding station. The birds had always liked that sunny location and a few houses and some food would let them know they were really welcome.

When I went down the next summer, the birds had accepted the invitation, bringing their nieces and uncles and aunts. But, to me, it still seemed to need something; it was twenty by thirty feet in size and there was too much open ground for just birds. I suggested that a good-size bird bath would make it more pleasant and when Mother explained that the landscape budget for that summer held no provision for such a thing—meaning one of those concrete affairs usually seen in gardens—I decided to build one myself.

There were plenty of quartz stones on the place, so I hauled in a few wheelbarrow loads, ranging in size from slingshot fodder to paving blocks. Surveying the resulting heap, I decided to let them "think out their own design" as the construction progressed from day to day.

The first step was to obtain a piece of old telephone pole about four feet long by ten inches in

diameter to serve as a core around which to build and also as insulation for the pipe that would supply water for the bath. It was split in two and each half was hollowed out to a five-inch diameter. Then pipe and plenty of burlap insulation were inserted and the two halves of the log bound together again with copper strips. A cork inserted in the lower end of the pipe prevented clogging during building.

The next procedure was to excavate a hole deep enough so that the bottom of the pipe rested about one and a half feet below the surface, this being considered beneath the freezing line. Some stout tamping about the base and a firm skeleton for the stone work resulted. Up to this point my children had exhibited no interest, but they now came up to inquire if I intended putting a statue on top. I told them to be out there after breakfast next morning.

At the hour scheduled the masonry work started off with a bang—it proved more fun than we'd had since mud pie days. To a chorus of idiotic questions and bright remarks, I laid a foundation of the heaviest stones about two and one-half feet square by five inches deep (because the stones happened to fit that size). By high noon the four walls had been brought up to a foot in height. This may sound like a masons' sit-down strike, but every inch represented a search for a stone of the proper size, shape, or color to grace a given place. I had mixed a thick, rich grout so that the interstices between the rocks would set them off to their



best advantage; and I took care to keep this mixture off the face of the quartz as it dried quickly. We made an iron rule not to cheat by filling up large gaps with the grout when the stones didn't fit correctly. This took lots of time, but it made the walls more interesting and better-looking than if we'd hurried the job.

During lunch everyone wanted to know what the pedestal would

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look like when finished. This we couldn't honestly answer because it was going up according to the size and shape of the rocks. Someone pointed out that it sloped inward as it attained height. Ah, we replied, that again was due to the rocks we were using.

As the afternoon wore on the walls grew steadily higher. The inward slope was allowed to continue to a height of two and one-half feet above the base; then we deemed it expedient to start an outward flare toward the greater dimensions of the bowl on top. This proved no easy job as each stone had to be a cantilever supporting itself and others by the pressure upon it just as a keystone holds up its neighboring blocks. Sometimes we barely made it and had to resort to props to hold a certain quartz in place until the grout set. We would not chip any stones to make them fit and it was remarkable how they could be fitted together, making a rough face but, on the whole an effect of graceful symmetry. By late afternoon the tedious fun had brought us up to the base of the bowl itself, so we laid off for reflection and study as to the treatment of the upper part.

By next morning the details of this part—"where the birds will sit down in the water" as one of the youngsters put it—had been mulled over and mentally completed. The rest was easy. A garden hose nozzle was attached to the top of the pipe and a well built around it until just enough protruded to permit turning it. The side walls were built sloping inward again and up until they were slightly higher than the top of the nozzle. Here the top stones were placed about half an inch apart so that they formed a decorative line. From their inside base other rocks were placed down to the well to form supports for the bowl. The finished floor of bright, kaleidoscopic flat stones was then laid in long sloping curves to the top of the well. The slope allowed for about an inch of water in the bath at what one might call "low tide."

When it came to excavating the ditch for the pipe line to the house, some twenty feet away, the kids gave dubious assistance with their small spades. First we dug down beside and under the pedestal until the bottom of the pipe was located. From there the same level was kept (with an allowance for insulation) over to the wall of the basement. The foundation was of the same quartz as the bath, so out came cold chisel and mallet. A brother-in-law showed up in time to help with the sapping operations, and we were lucky to find a place where mortar allowed soft going a great part of the way through the fifteen-inch wall. We came through into the basement about two feet from the garden hose connection!

We paused only for dinner eaten in the kitchen and refused to give up until the job was completed, just before the kids' bed time. Having nothing better, I brought out my brother's lantern slide machine and from the kitchen window trained the soft beam downward on the pedestal, leaving the rest in shadow. In that light, the debris around it was comparable to the eventual flower bed. As the water was turned on a graceful column rose lazily and, spreading, splashed lightly down into the bath. My mother murmured her approval, the kids giggled their delight, and I surveyed the effect as Sir Christopher Wren might have lovingly gazed upon the House of Parliament or Westminster Abbey.

An indoor-outdoor pool

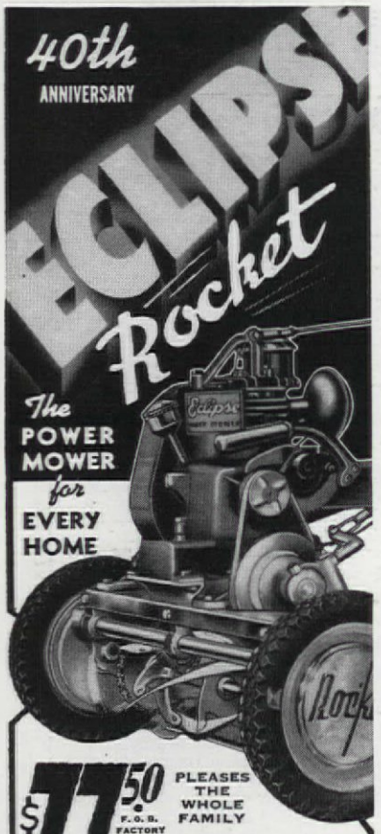
[*Continued from page 116*]

traction will have left some fine cracks around the edge of the glass and along the inside corners. Rub calking compound into these cracks and your combination pool and aquarium should be completed. From now on, treat it as you would any pool.

If you keep the plant life well to the outer side of the pool and maintain the right animal life-plant life balance, the arrangement that keeps still water crystal clear, you should find the cellar just as light as before. In fact, I'm inclined to believe that the diffusion of light by the water and the angles of refraction combine to throw more light into the cellar than you'll get through an ordinary window. Those angles of refraction also add an interesting touch in that from the outside the glass acts as a mirror, while from the cellar side, the surface of the pool is a mirror.

Unless your winter climate is extremely cold, you need have little fear that ice forming on the pool will break the glass. The sloping outside margin (opposite the glass) is one reason and warmth from the cellar acting on the glass is another. My own pool came through one winter of several near-zero spells without harm. A little extra inside heat might be provided near the glass as insurance on very cold nights; and you could, if you wished, provide a sort of hotbed sash cover on the outside. I plan to do both another year.

And if I ever build another house—stock phrase among home owners—and if the lay of the land is right, I expect to expand this scheme into a fair-size pool outside, and a glass-brick reversed-bay effect inside, with clear glass



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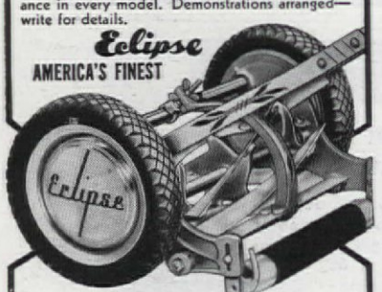
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panels, of course. I'll also provide a removable plate-glass partition at the wall line for use in winter, plus an overhead radiator as a heating system. (We thought that the little iron kettle of climbing plants hung from the bracket above the window as seen in the pictures helped the effect, but, of course, it is not an essential feature of the arrangement.)

Case II: No place to hold your flower show?

[*Continued from page 28*]

prize to Mrs. John Aull for her suggestion of a "Period Show" with all flowers shown in settings representative of different periods. For a while no one thought or worried much about it; then, as the time approached, the chairmen, Mrs. Ray McKechnie and Mrs. Charles Wagner, divided the whole club into committees and put each one in charge of a period. As the hunt for information about proper flowers and furniture for each group began—in magazines and books, at the library and at the Garden Center — the project loomed larger and larger until, at the May meeting, when some of the committees reported difficulties, one group expressed the opinion that the proposed exhibition was too big for one club to attempt. But an equally positive



group had confidence in the organization's ability to carry it through, and when the question was put to vote the Period Show plan won.

"Thereupon everyone got to work in earnest and on June 5, the day before the opening, there was a grand rush of furniture and accessories to the Art Institute. Some were borrowed from stores, but most items came from members' homes. Each period was designated (with approximate dates) and accompanied by a framed picture of a typical house of the time. With the objective of a flower exhibition uppermost in mind, each group was instructed

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"61" QUICK DRYING FLOOR VARNISH
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Ask your dealer for it or treat the seed yourself. 2 oz. jar—$1.00—treats 20 lb. seed. For booklet or name of dealer, write to
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Giant Flowers, Pastel Colors
Over 5 in. across, very deep. Graceful curled, twisted petals. *Many new colors*—chamois, buff, terra-cotta, old gold, apricot, rose, peach, etc. Seeds scarce.
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Rapid growing Annual from seed; plants all about same size 2 to 2½ ft. tall, feathery pea green foliage in summer, turning to red in fall. Can be trimmed any shape, fine for borders or clumps.

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This Annual, a new strain from Linaria stock begins to bloom in about 8-weeks from seed; dainty flowers resembling **Snapdragons** in many shades and colors ... such as pinks, carmine, reds, salmon, lavenders, yellows, rose, violet and others. Easy to grow, very attractive.

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We will mail all **6-packets,** one of each as described above for only **10c.**

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FREE CATALOG

to have at least six large arrangements suitable for different places, and one fruit dish. But there were also many small bouquets. And each committee worked so hard on its own exhibit that the beauty of the complete show—when they had a chance to study it—seemed to take them all by surprise.

"The Institute coöperated generously, turning over to the Club two rooms and the adjoining hall. Here the first thing to catch the eye was a showcase with half a dozen lovely flower arrangements in the French manner. In the first room there were two periods, the Georgian being the earlier. In this a complete mantel with a charming fireside grouping was the center of interest. Flowers were everywhere —a dainty pair of vases on the mantel, on several side tables and on the shelves of an open bookcase; and a lovely bowl of fruit completed the group. On the other side of the room was the Early American home for which many family antiques had been contributed. A large sideboard held a beautiful arrangement of old-fashioned daylilies in a brass kettle. A whatnot was filled with small flower arrangements. Even a melodeon, on which were old-fashioned yellow roses in blue glass, added to the Colonial atmosphere.

"Down the hall and across from the French bouquets two lovely windows in the Victorian Period manner, with heavy velvet draperies and lace curtains, made a background for elaborate Victorian bouquets and very fine arrangement of fruit. (Electric lights were cleverly used to give the effect of sunlight streaming through the windows.) A whatnot and side tables held a pair of vases, a bride's bouquet, and small flower arrangements in interesting containers.

"The second room held two quite different types. A 'cottage room' was shown in all its simplicity, with ruffled curtains at the window and a row of bright geraniums on the sill while a tea table and a sideboard held flowers such as are found in a cottage garden.

"Across the room a group in the modern manner made a fitting finale. Here the committee, having to make use of a permanent fountain, ingeniously hid its 16th Century Turkish carving with ivy and a brilliant climbing rose in full bloom, making a pool to fit into a modern garden with a glass-topped table and streamlined furniture. The flowers were of striking blue and yellow and even the 'fruit' accented the unexpectedness of modern styles, stalks of rhubarb in full bloom giving a most unusual effect.

"The show was scheduled for

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Saturday and Sunday but t
Club was asked to hold it o
till Tuesday night and the A
Institute dinner. This mea
bringing all fresh flowers but
spite of the work everyo
seemed to enjoy the fun of b
ing together, making new a
quaintances and renewing o
ones. But the greatest benefit w
to the Club as a whole, for t
enthusiasm and pleasure sho
by the many visitors was ju
the stimulus needed to carry
over a period of declining i
terest. Once more the Little Ga
dens Club of Dayton has a rep
tation that it must—and that
will—work hard to keep."

A greenhouse for everybody

[*Continued from page 33*]

seedbed to flats, which will gi
the house a capacity of abo
2,000 plants large enough to s
outdoors when weather permits

We started to move the plan
outdoors on April 20. By the fir
week in May this job was com
pleted and we sowed more see
for late annuals and such pe
ennials as Cerastium tomentosu
and Primula veris; and starte
soft wood cuttings of roses an
flowering shrubs. Everythin
came along in great style an
occupied the house until w
moved in some of the more te
der garden perennials.

If this sounds attractive, the
is no reason why you canno
duplicate our success. Our tot
cost, including labor, was le
than $100; to be exact, $94.9
The house measures a bit ove
9 feet square overall and th
peak stands about 4 ft. 6 i
above the ground line. As ou
garden slopes rather sharply, th
foundation is just a few inche
above grade at one corner an
a foot or so above at the oppo
site side; on a level plot le
screen planting at the sides woul
be necessary.

Our first task, excavating fo
the foundation. (9 ft. 4 in. b
8 ft. 10 in. by 3 ft. deep), too
longer than all the rest of th
job. The mason and helper lev
eled the floor, poured footing
and laid all the hollow concret
blocks in one day and from the
on it was quick work—sills lai
and bolted to the blocks; rafter
erected, roofing put over the nort
side, and east and west ends side
up. The door was of tongue-and
groove material and two vent
were cut in the eaves. Inside w
laid out the partitions, put dow
a strip floor and coated all of this
plus the sills, with creosote. Whe
this was dry Celotex was naile
to the rafters of the north roo
and the ends, and the entir

building, inside and out (except for the bed partitions and floor) was given a coat of white paint. The sash were also painted and when dry simply set in place.

You are probably waiting to hear that, of course, you will have to buy a steam plant and a thermostat. Perhaps they would be of some help. But, as far as I can see, our success could not have been greater if I had installed a thousand dollar heating plant. And the only heat we used was from the same source that was used to keep hotbeds warm before electric heating came in—namely fresh stable manure. (Fortunately for us, we like to ride and the entourage of our little suburban place includes two saddle horses.)

A small truckload of steaming horse manure was dumped into the pits, spread quickly and stamped down. When it had begun to warm up, a mixture of screened sand and garden loam was spread on top to a depth of about three inches. That manure and soil was still in the house in August of the following summer; the heat had, of course, gone out of it, but it was fine, thoroughly rotted compost for top-dressing the lawn in late fall, for adding to a potting-soil mixture, and for spading into flower beds and borders. We took it all out of the benches in the autumn, then brought in fresh manure and new soil in which to carry more tender plants over the winter and start more crops for the spring.

Does manure provide ample heat? I recall a bitter February day when the thermometer registered a bit below zero. I looked out through a frosted window to note that the vents in the greenhouse eaves were tightly closed. Perhaps things were frozen. Bundling up in my heaviest clothes, I ploughed through the snow and as I entered the greenhouse a flood of heat swept out. The thermometer registered 101 degrees! I had indeed nearly lost my winter's work—but from too much heat rather than too little. After that we opened all the vents without fail every day when there was sun, and one of them during daylight even when there was no sun. I would say that my greenhouse is suitable even when the mercury stays well below zero.

The dimensions can, of course, be varied to suit conditions. I'd advise sticking to the 8 ft. 10 in. width and adding 3 ft. sash units if length is needed. Any handyman should be able to do the entire job for about $60 for material. There is nothing complicated in the construction or in the operation of the greenhouse. Built as airtight as possible and finished inside and out with a few coats of paint, it enables you to start your annuals thirty to sixty

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days earlier than outdoors; to make replacements in your garden as the early varieties die out; to propagate perennials, and to save you real money within a very few years after its construction.

Editorial Comments: About the time Mr. White sent us his article, we were interested to find in the "Gardens on Parade" exhibition at the New York World's Fair a scale model of "An Unheated Pit Greenhouse" as designed and built in Dover, Massachusetts, for Mr. Lucien B. Taylor, an enthusiastic horticulturist. Eighteen feet long and eight feet wide and built over a four-foot deep excavation, it cost $40 for the concrete foundation walls, $80 for the superstructure, and $30 for hardware and the six hotbed sash that form the southern side of its 45-degree roof, a total of $150. The north side of the roof is of double planking, covered with building paper and shingled; in it are two covered openings which, in summer, give ventilation and, in winter, permit the interior space to be packed with leaves for insulation. The vertical end walls (of wood) are similarly insulated; each has an air vent in it and one has a door. The house has a dirt floor three feet below ground level underlain by a foot of drainage material; there is also a line of drain tile along the bottom of the foundation wall. Burlap bags of leaves and straw mats are laid over the glass at night during the coldest winter weather.

As Mr. White says, his ownership of a source of fresh stable manure gives him an advantage over most of us when it comes to heating such a greenhouse. But it would be entirely possible to equip the beds (or benches) with underground electrical heating cables, thermostatic controls etc. as obtainable from seed and garden supply stores. These outfits are easily installed, are not expensive and, operated from the house circuit, cost relatively little to run.—E. L. D. SEYMOUR

If flowers aren't in your budget . . . .

[*Continued from page 45*]

indoor use, as the two pictures on pages 44 and 45, sent in by Barbara Aplin of California, testify. This is the so-called Oriental type, which is actually a form of kale in which the characteristic loose, curly, open heads take on the loveliest shades of lavender, orchid, and purple as well as variations of the normal green, ranging all the way to a creamy, almost pure white. Sometimes the white is restricted to the heart of a more colorful head, while in other cases it may turn the whol plant into a remarkable albino like specimen.

The real enjoyment of thes effects entails some care along th way, Mrs. Aplin reminds us in letter from which we quote:

"Sow the seed in a flat or we prepared seedbed and you will b gratified by their prompt germi nation. As soon as the seedling have four or five leaves, trans plant them, setting them about foot apart each way. Unless yo can use extra large heads, don' make the soil very rich and don' feed the crop much as it grows But give it water as needed, cul tivate to keep down weeds, and



watch out for both aphids and cabbage worms—and, of course for casual rabbits, whether wild or tame. Do not be discouraged if the young plants resemble the orthodox cabbages in your vege table rows, for they are slow to attain their upright kale form and frequently the color effects do not appear until late in the season. When a head is so lovely that you cannot refrain from picking and using it in the house, cut it high on the stem; then other small rosettes, charmingly useful in little arrangements, will develop around the stump. Cut the heads early in the day and immerse them in cold water for a few hours to make the leaves plump and firm before putting them on display.

"As to their use in arrangements, their possibilities are endless. The individual petals are charming when combined with flowers. In a massed arrangement, a cluster of the small cabbages is stunning as the center of interest. And simplicity itself, yet none-the less fascinating, is a single large head floating in a flat bowl. The question may arise as to what would be a good type of contrast ing growth to use with Oriental cabbage. French spinach is one answer. Its tall graceful flower stalks with plump little seed vesicles clustered along the stem, offer a plant form that combines most agreeably with the cab bages, and with the first frost the whole stalk and its leaves and seed pods turn a warm rosy pink."—HORTICULTURAL EDITOR.



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Q. "What are these methods of Uncle Sam's?"

Mr. Walker: "They're scientific ways of improving soil and plant food . . . that have helped farmers grow finer tobacco in recent years."

Q. "And that's what has made tobacco better?"

Mr. W: "The best in 300 years . . . even though crops do vary with the weather."

Q. "You say Luckies buy the 'Cream of the Crop'?"

Mr. W: "They sure do. The best proof is that they're the 2-to-1 choice of experts not connected with any tobacco company—warehousemen, auctioneers and buyers. For my part, I've smoked them 10 years."

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